SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS GUILD
1952
Serving the Officer

The Guardian

VOLUME 38, Issue 12 December 2007

PAC Efforts Prevail

4 out of 5 SPOG Candidates Claim Victory

SPOG Members, President Rich O'Neill, Officer Gretchen Hughes, Officer Joe Bender, Vice President Roger Dixon, Officer Chris Callahan, and Sergeant Ty Elster campaigned for Tim Burgess at Husky Stadium this fall.

Congratulations to the following 2007 candidates

Tim Burgess
Seattle City Council Position #7

Tom Rasmussen
Seattle City Council Position #5

Dan Satterberg
King County Prosecutor

Dennis Law
Mayor of Renton

By Roger Dixon, SPOG Vice President

The Seattle Police Officers Guild recently embarked on the road of political action through the Political Action Committee (PAC). The reasons were obvious as well as necessary for the welfare of our members and for the overall public safety of the community. We have had many years of standing on the political sidelines hoping the people that directly affect police labor contracts are fair and reasonable. The policies they oversee and influence affect our wages, benefits, discipline, and staffing.

We are waiting no longer. We have taken positive steps in providing our members a voice in city government through the political process. A large part of that involves identifying and supporting candidates who understand and support police officers and public safety.

Opposition draws media attention, which furthers the problems for a candidate who has active opposition. The SPOG did exactly this in the recent General Election. A city council candidate with a poor public safety record drew our attention and ire. We worked hard through our endorsement of his opponent by attending candidate forums, contacting community members and other voter groups, providing financial assistance, and making media contacts. Our involvement, in cooperation with the Seattle Firefighters labor organization, was a definite factor in the election outcome.

The November election saw four of the five candidates we supported win their election bids, a tremendous record especially for our new PAC (Political Action Committee). We came to realize that the SPOG must be actively involved in the political process. The people that shape and influence public policy in Seattle are keenly aware that our union is monitoring and evaluating their public safety record, particularly as it affects the safety and welfare of Seattle Police Officers.

The 2008 election cycle has already begun and will be very important for us with the mayor's race and several city council contests on the ballot. A large number of officers have participated in our success through the PAC. If you haven't signed up we encourage you to do so soon. Payroll deduction is minimal and can be any amount you choose. Contact any Shop Steward or Board Member, or call Elizabeth at 206-767-1150.

IN THIS ISSUE...

4 No Fun
6 You Get What You Pay For
10 We Are Wasting Our Money

You'll Also Find:

President's Message.....2
Police Dog Scar.....5
Board Nomination Form.....5
Health Savings Accounts.....7
A Fallen Brother.....8
Officer of the Month.....12
Retired News.....14
Editors Notes.....16

The Guardian
SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS' GUILD
2949 Fourth Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98134

Change Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 130

NCPSO/CWA, AFL-CIO
Local #7877

The Guardian

Official publication of the Seattle Police Officers' Guild
2949 4th Avenue S.
Seattle, Washington 98134
Phone (206) 767-1150
E-mail: mail@SeattlePoliceGuild.org

GUILD OFFICERS

President
Rich O'Neill, Operations

Vice President
Roger Dixon, North Precinct

Secretary/Treasurer
Tom Umporowicz, South Precinct

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sergeant-at-Arms
John Abraham, Traffic

Position 1
Anthony Baily, Southwest Precinct

Position 2
Tom McLaughlin, West Precinct

Position 3
Ron Smith, Pawn Shop Squad

Position 4
Johnny Stevens, West Precinct

Position 5
Mike Severance, North Precinct

Position 6
Randy Robinson, Traffic

Position 7
Ben Hughey, South Precinct

Position 8
Ty Elster, North Precinct

Position 9
Deb Nicholson, Employment Services

Position 10
Jim Brakebill, Traffic

GUARDIAN STAFF

Editor
Ron Smith, Pawn Shop Squad

Editorial Board
Randy Robinson, Traffic
Deb Nicholson, Employment Services
Jim Brakebill, Traffic

Advertising Manager
Elizabeth Loy

Layout and Design Artist
Sarah Scott

Editors Emeritus
Dick Rovig
Gordon Barnett
Don MacMillan
Joy Mundy

The opinions expressed in *The Guardian* do not necessarily reflect those of the Seattle Police Department.

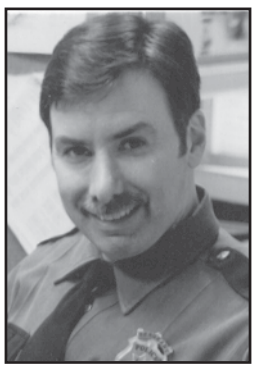
Responsibility for signed articles remains solely with the author.

The Guardian is the only official publication published monthly by and for the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

NON-GUILD MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Call (206) 767-1150 for information

President's Message

By Sergeant Rich O'Neill, SPOG President



Last January, the Seattle Police Officer's Guild decided to become more active in the local political scene. For the first time in our history, we formed a PAC fund and began soliciting voluntary contributions from members and citizens. We began interviewing candidates earlier than we had in any past election and actually made some endorsements before the primary. This too was a first for the organization. We also joined forces with our public safety brothers and sisters in the Seattle Firefighters Union. With an open and ongoing dialogue between the two largest labor unions in the city, we were able to concentrate our efforts and work together toward a common goal. Many of our board members stepped up and got involved. I'd like to highlight the extra effort put in by Ty Elster, Roger Dixon and Johnny Stevens. They put in many hours on the campaigns. I am overjoyed to report that on election night all of the hard work paid off. SPOG made endorsements in five local races. Four out of our five candidates were victorious! It was once thought that getting SPOG's endorsement was like making the cover of Sport's Illustrated. It was a curse and disaster was sure to follow. Well, we put an end to that curse with an incredible four resounding victories. Our victorious candidates were: King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg (who won in King County despite the "R" next to his name), Renton Mayor Dennis Law (who defeated an incumbent) and for the Seattle City Council, Tom Rasmussen and former Seattle Police Officer Tim Burgess. The Burgess victory was most satisfying because he not only unseated the incumbent, David Della, but he crushed him by over 25 points. That race also highlighted the strength of Local 27 and SPOG. Both unions had representatives at almost every community forum handing out brochures and answering citizen's questions. Seeing the "red and blue shirts" united in a political race should send a clear message to all political candidates (especially the incumbents) in this city. If public safety is not your main priority, you will be exposed and you will have to fight Seattle's two largest unions. And before you try and ride the fence by saying "I always voted for more officers" ask Mr. Della how that empty line worked. Voting for a few more officers after years of neglect will be exposed! Claiming that you voted for more officers, but failing to recognize that the pay and benefits offered to SPD is so dismal that we can't attract new officers, will be exposed! Spending money on every social program that comes before you, while your police officers work months and years without a contract will be exposed! Grandstanding about a few misconduct allegations while you ignore the fact that we have a highly ethical department that is a model across the nation will be exposed! Writing legislation to change our contract instead of bargaining in good faith will definitely be exposed! SPOG and Local 27 may not always agree on all the issues or candidates but when we join forces we showed this past election night what we can accomplish. The sleeping giants have been awakened and any candidate who is not a friend of public safety better be prepared for a tough race!

I have to admit that as a young officer I kind of thought that we should stay out of politics. As I became more involved in the guild, I saw how naive I was to ever hold such an idea. Every single benefit that we enjoy is generated or approved by an elected individual. We need to continue to be a force in the political arena. I urge every member who has not signed up for the PAC campaign to contact the SPOG office or any board member for more information. As our PAC fund grows we will be able to have more of an influence in campaigns by educating the voters as to critical public safety issues. (ie..Bus Ads, Radio and TV commercials).

SPOG elections are coming up. This year the even numbered board positions as well as the position of Secretary/Treasurer and President are up for grabs. The filing period for these positions will close on December 19th and the ballots will arrive at your residence in January. I hope to see every position have at least two choices. I believe that it is healthy for the membership to have choices when it comes to electing individuals to steer this organization. I encourage any officer who has "good ideas" to get more involved. I understand that your involvement is dictated by your family obligations, as it should be. Early in my career I was encouraged by some "old timers" to step up and get involved. It could have been that they were just tired of hearing me "spout off" at coffee, but I did take their advice. After my children were grown and I was finished coaching youth sports, I realized that I had the time to get more involved with SPOG.

Many officers have asked what the time commitment is to serve as a board member. Board members need to be available for a board meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 1-3 p.m. Board members should also attend the general membership meeting at 8 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month. Board members receive training in assisting members with contract questions, grievances and discipline issues. After training, board members are qualified to serve as "guild reps" at OPA interviews and officer-involved shootings. Once elected, board members volunteer to serve on various committees within SPOG. Contract Research, Discipline, Grievance, Off-Duty, and Political Action are just a few of the committees to choose from. Board members receive a $50 stipend for the meetings they attend. If you consider the time involved, the hourly rate is lower than an off-duty job. Board members obviously do not serve for the money, but rather for a sincere desire to assist their fellow officers. The term of office for board members is 2 years.

The executive board of directors consists of the President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer and they serve 3 year terms. These three positions are paid a salary rather than a stipend because of the extra amount of work and responsibility involved. Each executive board member chairs one of the different committees. The executive board is expected to attend all of the above meetings in addition to the Joint Labor Management Meetings (JLMC) which are held twice a month. It is at the JLMC meetings where SPOG and management attempt to settle issues before they become full-blown grievances. Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't, but it is critical to maintain a venue where open dialogue and disagreements can be aired. The executive board also is expected to attend all of the contract negotiation sessions with the city. For a complete job description and specific duties for each executive board member please check the bylaws which are posted online.

After much discernment, I have decided to seek another term as SPOG President. In my 27+ years, I have never worked in such a challenging and time-consuming assignment. Two years ago I said that I wanted to improve our communication, our professionalism and our leadership. Together with the help of the board, I think we have improved in all three areas. I am very proud of the changes we have made as an organization and the direction that we are heading. There is still a lot of work that I want to try and accomplish. My #1 priority is to settle the contract with decent wages and strong benefits. I will try my hardest to get a contract that will begin to restore SPD to a place where new recruits will want to apply and experienced officers will stop looking elsewhere. Regardless of your opinions, I urge all members to vote. Let your voice be heard.

In this season of giving, I ask that you remember all of the officers who gave their very lives in the performance of their duties. It is said that there is no greater love than to lay down your life for another. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers. I'd like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and joyful New Year!

Support the PAC

SPOG has been active in the political process for a long time. Persons seeking elective office seek SPOG's endorsement because the Guild and our officers are respected in the community. At the state level, we belong to COMPAS which focuses on state-wide issues. Locally, we don't have a mechanism in place to contribute to city races or citizen initiatives that support police. Currently, SPOG has a group of board members who interview and recommend candidate endorsements. Now, we want to put our money where our mouth is and back those city candidates and citizen initiatives which are pro police by establishing a PAC fund. We can't do this without each of our supporters help, no matter how big or small.

SPOG has established a Political Action Committee (PAC), so that we can back our endorsements with financial contributions to candidates and initiatives that support Seattle Police. It is a fact that money drives the political system, and those seeking office or re-election need the resources to get their message out to the voters. SPOG should not sit on the sidelines while elected officials decide the fate of our members. Whether we like it or not, we are in the political arena. Rather than be spectators, we need to be in the political arena and fight for the interests of every member.

SPOG will endorse and give PAC money only to those candidates and initiatives that support the interests and issues of Seattle Police Officers. We will only finance political campaigns that result in better collective bargaining contracts with improved economic benefits and working conditions. The Seattle firefighter union's PAC is a great example of how a political action fund can work for the benefit of the organization and its members. Help us to help you by participating in the SPOG PAC. Remember that our members depend on our strength, and our strength depends on our members. Donations are welcome from all individuals who support Seattle Police.

SUPPORT THE SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS' GUILD
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The following contribution is made payable to the Seattle Police Officers' Guild Political Action Committee and is being forwarded to the Seattle Police Officers' Guild Political Action Fund Chairman held at SPOG, 2949 4th Avenue, S.; Seattle, WA 98134.

This contribution is voluntary and with the understanding that the SPOG Political Action Committee will use this money to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with state and local elections. I understand that this deduction is not tax deductible. All contributions will be subject to Washington State public disclosure laws.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Contribution: $_____ **Signature:** _____

Date: _____

Superior Service and Results
For All Your Real Estate Needs!

- ☑ Having a ***20+ year veteran*** of Seattle-area law enforcement as a husband has given me a deep understanding of the ***unique real estate needs*** and preferences of police officers and their families!
- ☑ As a ***dedicated full-time agent*** having earned the Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) designation held by only about 4% of agents nationally, I have helped ***hundreds of officers*** obtain home ownership through excellence in customer service!
- ☑ **Ask me about my special *police family programs!***

My ***knowledge and experience*** can help you if you are buying your first home, second home, last home, or investment property (1031 exchanges)!

Call me to learn about using a ***police officer's deferred comp contributions*** as a down payment to purchase a home!

Representing sellers and buyers, I will treat your transaction like my own personal transaction.

That's my promise to you!

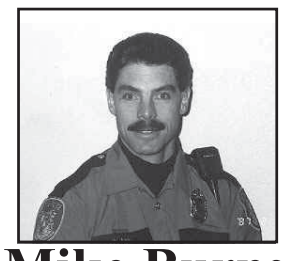
Mastering **your move**

SOLD BY Windermere

Sue Hammermaster
(425)417-5733

Windermere
Windermere Real Estate/Renton, Inc.

www.suehammermaster.com or sue@suehammermaster.com



Mike Burns
S.P.D. Reserve

The ***Keystone*** Program

Direct Line:
(425) 643-6111

- CONV, VA, FHA, REFI, 0% DOWN, PURCHASE, HELOC'S, LINES OF CREDIT, CONSTRUCTION, REMODEL
- Over **150 Lenders** to chose from, Guarantees you the **Best Rate!!**
- UNLIKE OTHER LENDERS, THE KEYSTONE PROGRAM WILL USE YOUR **OVERTIME, OFF DUTY, COURT AND METRO** TO APPROVE YOUR LOAN!!!
- Please visit **www.seattlepoliceguild.org** (at website click on "members") for your **FREEE** pre-approval and credit report!!
- Police, Fire, City, County Employees, and their extended familes save over **$1,000.00!!!**

No Fun

By Officer Steve Pomper, East Precinct

"This just ain't no fun no more." Patrol officers, including me, make this comment too often these days. Can, or should, police work be described as fun? I think so. In fact, if you can't find fun in what you do for a living, then you probably shouldn't be doing it. Life's too short to compromise this aspect of work for too long.

Having fun is one important measure of job satisfaction—in my humble opinion. As I used to say to my students when I was an FTO, being a cop is better than working for a living—or at least it was. Of course work's not going to be fun everyday, but if the overall experience is enjoyment, then your work is fun, rewarding, and it will reflect in your performance, and in how you feel about your profession in general. In other words, everyone benefits.

Why aren't cops having fun these days? Well, you try going to work in a squad with only one, two, or three officers, and entire watches with only a dozen officers, give or take, day after day, month after month, and year after year, and see how you like it. It ain't fun! And now, although the new re-mapping of sectors and districts ostensibly seeks to redistribute the workload more equitably, it will also create an illusion, at least at the squad level, of more officers, but the truth will still be obvious at the watch level.

Empirical evidence exists for this illusion, or delusion. When I first arrived at the East Precinct, from South in early 1993, there were three sectors at that time too. However, C-Sector had five districts and E-Sector had five districts; with this new redraw each will have only three districts. Could it be that it reduces the embarrassment of not even being able to fill patrol districts when squads are short staffed? I don't think it's out of line to wonder if this re-mapping is simply a shell game—a distraction.

With a stated emphasis on "geo-policing," aren't fewer, larger districts counterintuitive? Wouldn't more and smaller districts, staffed with district officers, serve our community better.

A friend of mine, a twenty-plus year patrol veteran, succinctly answers the question of why police work is no longer fun, "Because *they* won't let me do my job anymore." Who are *they*? *They* are those city leaders who've never had, and those department leaders who no longer have, any clue as to how it feels to be a patrol officer in today's harsh environment. *They* sit, not only in authority, but in judgment over cops. We conduct our patrol shifts, and sometimes even our private lives, not merely under a magnifying glass, but under the extreme magnification of a societal, administrative, and media electron microscope.

Although I feel the command at the East Precinct is excellent and is doing the best for us within their purview and means, I fear too many of our leaders suffer from three handicaps: One, they haven't been on the streets in so long, its got to be virtually impossible to truly know, on a daily basis, how stressful and frustrating it is for patrol today. Second, when they hear officer's concerns, they may search their own mental rolodexes for common ground, but their experience on the streets, all those years ago, has absolutely no resemblance to our experience on the streets today—it's not the same job. And third, they don't have the time, or, perhaps worse, the inclination to make the effort to mitigate this condition.

While I don't blame anyone for fading memories of working a different assignment, in this instance, patrol, I do blame folks who are responsible for patrol, for not taking steps to compensate for it by keeping, if not their heads, their hearts in patrol. If patrol is truly the backbone of the police department, as we were told so often, then shouldn't this effort be a priority? Does it appear to be? However, if there are those on high who still believe this axiom, we'd sure like to see some evidence of it down here in the SPD dungeon known as patrol. Remember, right now, at this very moment, while you're reading this missive, there's likely a squad out there, serving their communities with only one, two, or three officers.

Want to hear more of the patrol officer "non-fun" we face these days? How about, condescension, mistrust, micro-managing, perpetually short staffing, politically motivated, straight-jacketing policies and procedures; and now an entirely new and monumentally onerous computer reporting system, video cameras, GPS, and apparently *they* don't care enough to offer us a contract that reflects our contribution, risk, and dedication to Seattle. We can only assume that the contract offers, so far, reflect their true measure of us; underwhelming to say the least.

All these elements combine to create a "perfect" storm for employee abuse. Oh and how could I neglect to mention the stupendously frivolous IIS/OPA complaints? Is there anything *they* won't investigate? Once again I also have to ask, how does this work to attract new recruits, and perhaps more importantly, retain current officers? If I didn't know better, I'd wonder if someone was tasked with creating an employment environment specifically designed to repel potential recruits and excise current officers. If that's the case, then good job!

On another related, but entirely, completely, and totally hypothetical note: did you know that another officer (of whatever rank) can actually "beef" you to IIS/OPA, regardless that the complaint lacks the substance to even be called a "beef," and should more properly be referred to as a "tofu?" And while you might at least reserve some respect for the officer who faces you, you may work the rest of your career never knowing the name of your fellow officer, your brother- or sister-in-arms, who thrust the knife into your back? Not that this actually occurs; I'm just sayin'.

Work used to be fun; today it's just work.

"We Proudly Support the Police and Family"
Your Complete Auto Repair and Body Work.
Best Price, Quality, Integrity, Honesty
Tony Lee, Owner
One Stop GREENWOOD Auto Repair
30% Discount Repair or Body
GREENWOOD Auto Body and Paint
Tel: (206) 706-2778
Cell: (206) 713-7322
Fax: (206) 789-0894
8208 Greenwood Avenue N.
Seattle, WA 98103

The Keystone Kops
and
IFA Chapter 17
presents:
The Spring Event
Crab and Pasta Dinner
Saturday, February 2nd
Seattle Police Athletic Assn. Range
11030 E. Marginal Way S.
6:00pm (social hour), 7:00pm (dinner), 8:00pm (auction)
Only $25 per person
The best event of the season!
Fantastic Door Prizes, Raffle, and Grand Auction Items
Questions about the event? Call Gene Willard, 206-409-3663, Tony Rago, 206-293-2742, Mike Slessman, 206-363-7246 or any Keystone Kop

206 SYNAPSE
"We proudly back and support the men & women of the Seattle Police Department"

Tina Bueche
SPD Proprietor
& Friend
Fashion for women from local artists and interesting lines from everywhere....
206 First Avenue South
Seattle (206) 447-7731
Hours: 10-6 M-Th, 10-7 Fri, 12-6 Sat, 12-4 Sun

SPOG Elections are Here

Positions open are: President, Secretary-Treasurer, Position 2, Position 4, Position 6, Position 8, and Position 10.

Nominations open on **November 21st at 0800** and end on **December 19th at 1600**. Call the Guild Office for more information 206-767-1150

NOMINATIONS OPEN

President, Secretary-Treasurer and Even Board Positions
Nominations Open November 21st at 0800 Hours
Nominations Close December 19th at 1600 Hours
Photo and 350 word message must be submitted by close of nominations
Contact the Guild at 767-1150 for more information

SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS' GUILD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOMINATION FORM

Date_____

We, the undersigned, nominate _____for the position of _____ (President, Position #2, etc.) of the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Nominee Signature _____

athenian inn

Overlooking
Seattle's Waterfront
in the Heart
of the
Pike Place Market

Good Food & Beverages
"Old Fashion Ice Cream Soda Fountain"
Exciting selection of Foreign & Domestic Beer !

Breakfast, Lunch and early Dinners
Open Monday-Saturday 6:30am-6:30pm

Morris K. Fortmann, Jr.

Attorney at Law

PERSONAL SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL RESULTS

More Than 18 Years Experience

Divorce	Parenting Plans	Child Support
Child Relocation Act	Child Custody	Property Division
Modifications	Paternity	Wills
Pension Division (Leoff)	Maintenance (Alimony)	Probate

206-622-5191

Police Dog Scar Has Gone 950

By Officer Ray Volluz, South Precinct

Police Dog Scar was retired from service on June 26, 2007.

Scar and I began our partnership in June of 1997 when we attended the Washington State Department of Corrections Narcotics Detection Canine Team school on McNeill Island. Scar had been found at the Pierce County Humane Society by Sergeant Barb Davenport, our primary instructor. Scar was anti-social at the time, with broken teeth and a dull coat. He likely would not have been adopted and faced a dismal future. He was found to have an extremely high drive, causing destructive behavior when not otherwise employed; this led to minor physical injuries giving him his name. Sergeant Davenport recognized the huge potential in Scar and saved him for SPD, where she knew he'd get the amount of work he needed to fulfill his destiny. Scar graduated with the highest accuracy percentage of the class.

Scar certainly got the work he needed. In just under ten years on the street, Scar performed outstanding work in 4,299 applications! Many of these applications were short car searches, but many were also one to three hour long home and business searches. There is no way to estimate the number of times Scar found evidence that would have been missed without his assistance but it would be significant. Scar was called on 228 times to assist outside agencies. His tremendous body of work led to evidence supporting 1,497 felony and 177 misdemeanor arrests. During 2006, the last complete year we worked together, we responded to 816 calls for service and 302 on-view incidents. These responses led to 523 applications, which yielded narcotics evidence 345 times. Scar's K9 Effectiveness was calculated at 214.3%, the highest in the Unit.

Scar and I rarely generated our own investigations. We were proud to work with an aggressive group of officers and detectives who made the traffic stops and conducted the investigations allowing Scar to perform his magic. It was truly a team effort that yielded the following amounts of evidence: 65 pounds of Flake Cocaine; 22 pounds of Rock Cocaine; 18 pounds of Tar Heroin; one-half pound of Powder Heroin; 10 pounds of Methamphetamines; 5,520 Marijuana plants; 429 pounds of Marijuana (Bud); 233 pounds of Marijuana (Shake); 1021 hits of LSD; 16 pounds of Other Narcotics (Ecstasy primarily); and 7,327 pieces of Paraphernalia. 164 search warrants were generated based entirely or in part on Scar's indications.

Scar's recovery values were: $23,487,204 in narcotics; $2,022,235 in currency; $3,468,681 in property; and 233 vehicles with an estimated value of $2,452,785. Scar's total recoveries were well over 31-million dollars. Scar more than paid his expenses.

Scar had to sit idle for six months in 2001 and again in 2004 while his partner was placed on active duty with the Navy. Shortly after this last vacation, in December of 2004, Scar was struck down by a mysterious immune system imbalance. He lost so much weight that we thought he might succumb. Dr. Jeb Mortimer, Greenlake Animal Hospital, and the great folks at Animal Critical Care Emergency Services of Lake City, worked a miracle and brought him back. Scar went on to do some of his best work.

Scar is living at home now, trying to get used to the quiet life, but really missing work. He also misses all the officers he taught to play with him when he dropped his ball or Frisbee at their feet. We have also heard from many officers who came to depend on him, that Scar is missed on the streets. We wish the best of luck to Scar's replacement – you've got some big paws to fill.

You Get What You Pay For

By Officer Mike Severance, Board Position #5

I want to thank Mayor Nickels for his Veterans Day email honoring those who have and still do protect our nation and preserve our liberties. There was nothing of a similar nature from the City Council President on behalf of the City Council. I'm sure that was not a surprise to anyone, but it is odd that a former board member of the ACLU is not appreciative of the fact that our liberties were paid for with blood, and continue to be protected by the men and women of our Armed Forces.

Our City Council has been predominately anti-military and anti-veteran for the last 15-16 years. Between 1991 and now, it has passed two resolutions honoring our veterans. The last was in 2002. In 1991, there was a proposed parade in Seattle for our Gulf War veterans. Our City Council wanted our soldiers to march without their rifles. And what stand did our City Council take when the U.S. Navy was thinking of home porting the U.S.S. Nimitz at Piers 90/91? Read Council Resolution 29610 from 1997 (two of its sponsors still sit on the City Council) and you will be asking yourself "Who attacked who at Pearl Harbor?" Read Council Resolution 30218 from 2000 (sponsored by a member still sitting on the Council). What an example of talking out of both sides of one's mouth, and telling the U.S. Navy's Seafair Fleet to stay out of Seattle unless its makeup conforms to the City Council's ideas of what is proper. Our greatest generation becomes smaller in number every day. Flag draped caskets mark the final journeys of people who fought and preserved, among other things, the rights of Americans to run for elected office. Are we worthy of their sacrifices?

The City Council Budget Committee met on November 9th to finalize the 2008 budget to be presented to the full Council. The City Charter gives the City Council the **exclusive** power to establish the authorized strength of the Police Department by ordinance. There were 26 items and many sub-topics on their agenda. Except for OPA, none of those items involved SPD or police staffing. But the "31st Avenue Traffic Calming" was on the agenda. I have no idea what that is, but it certainly makes me feel safer knowing the Budget Committee discussed it.

The Budget Committee is chaired by Richard McIver. His wife says he assaulted her. His trial is scheduled for December. Following that trail, I am hopeful that he will become outgoing council member McIver just like outgoing council member Della. As of election day, outgoing councilmember Della had repeatedly delayed and refused to testify before the Ethics and Election Commission regarding allegations that he misused his position and authority, and threatened retaliation against this City's police officers and firefighters because we supported his victorious opponent. Who was one of Della's biggest supporters? It was none other than the non-supporter of our veterans, Nick Licata.

But our very highly paid City Council has been hard at work. They have **finally** approved the Master Bicycle Plan for Seattle and ear marked $90 million for it. They also passed an ordinance which goes into effect on January 1, 2008, and affects our Chief. If the Chief of Police, the final decision maker on SPD disciplinary matters, dispenses discipline different than was recommended by his subordinates, then the Chief must report his reasons for doing so in writing. If the City Council requests that report (as if the Council wouldn't request it), it must be given to them. In essence, the City Council has created a duty for the Chief of Police, and the Chief of Police, upon request, must report to the City Council regarding his administration of the Police department.

The City Charter does not give the City Council executive or administrative power over the Police Department. Those powers are reserved for the Mayor and the Chief of Police. The City Charter says the Chief of Police makes all the rules for running the Police Department. The City Charter says the Chief of Police reports only to the Mayor regarding the administration of the Police Department. The City Charter says that only the **people** can amend the City Charter.

It appears to me that Nicky & Company, under the guise of an ordinance, have exercised executive and administrative power over the Police Department. Under the guise of an ordinance, they have amended the City Charter without a vote of the people. They have established a duty for the Chief of Police, something they have no authority to do. But it isn't my executive powers being stolen, and this is not the first time I think the Council has unlawfully seized executive power.

I believe this is so critically important, that I have cut and pasted the pertinent part of the City Charter directly from the City's web site.
ARTICLE V. Executive Department
Sec. 2. POWER AND DUTIES OF MAYOR:
The Mayor shall see that the laws of the City are enforced, and shall direct and control all subordinate officers of the City, except in so far as such enforcement, direction and control is by this Charter reposed in some other officer or board, and shall maintain peace and order in the City. He or she may, in any emergency, of which the Mayor shall be the judge, assume command of the whole or any part of the police force of the City; but before assuming such control he or she shall issue his or her proclamation to that effect, and it shall be the duty of the Chief of Police to execute orders promulgated by the Mayor during such emergency. The Mayor shall perform such other duties and exercise such other authority as may be prescribed by law.

Notice that the Charter does not specifically state that the Mayor has the power to proclaim an end to a state of emergency. Common sense dictates that. Just as declaring a state of emergency is an executive power and not a legislative one, proclaiming an end to a state of emergency is an executive power. Prior to November 5, 2000, common sense ruled in Seattle. The Mayor had the exclusive power to declare a state of emergency and issue orders to deal with that emergency. The Mayor had the exclusive power to proclaim an end to a state of emergency.

On November 5, 2000, the City Council passed Ordinance 120606. I will show the crucial changes in ***bold face italics*** so they are easier to see. The Mayor has the sole authority to proclaim a state of civil emergency. During that emergency, the Mayor can issue orders to deal with the emergency ***as long as those orders are in a form that meets requirements established by the City Council.*** A state of emergency shall cease to exist upon the issuance of a proclamation by the Mayor ***or a resolution passed by not less than 2/3 of the City Council.*** There are some other changes, but they are minor. If the Mayor proclaims an end to a state of emergency, the City Council can accept it, modify it, or reject it.

I have a question. What if the City Council ends the state of emergency and the Mayor disagrees? Does the Mayor just turn around and declare another state of emergency? I think the City Council, under the guise of an ordinance, amended the City Charter without a vote of the people...again, and seized/stole executive powers to which they are not entitled. But what do I know? I'm just a voter. Can you imagine the current City Council making a quick decision about anything, especially under the pressure of a state of emergency? How long did it take them to come up with their Master Bicycle Plan? Can you envision the possibilities for total and utter chaos?

And our highly paid City Council has done a magnificent job with their **exclusive** responsibility for police staffing. The 30 new cops they approved for 2007/2008, and the 105 which the Mayor wants through 2012 add up to 135 new cops. The net staffing change since January 2007 is +1. At that rate of increase, when will someone be able to say that the net staffing change since January 2007 is a +135? That would be in the year 2131, a mere 124 years from now. And it will only happen that soon if the exodus of officers from SPD does not increase. That's a big if.,

The Seattle City Council is the 3rd highest paid in the nation. **ARE WE GETTING WHAT WE PAY FOR?** I'm a Seattle taxpayer, and I want my money back. As I approach the end of my 40th year of service to the people of Seattle, I can say that the City Councils of the last 10 years have done more than all their predecessors combined to neuter effective law enforcement and public safety in this City. Their actions have made it next to impossible to attract qualified recruits. Their actions are responsible for an exodus of good SPD officers who are leaving to go work for other communities that want and have effective law enforcement. Their actions have doomed the Neighborhood Policing Plan before it even gets started because it lacks its major ingredient...staffing. If the window of opportunity to rectify their ineptitude has not already slammed shut, it is barely ajar.
Be safe out there.

Do you have an upcoming IIS Interview?
Contact SPOG now to schedule a rep!
206-767-1150 or online at www.seattlepoliceguild.org

For Sale

Home in the bowl of Edmonds. For Sale by Owner.
Offered at $628,000.
Two-level home with vaulted ceilings. Lcoated in cul-de-sac. 4 bedrooms, lower level mother-in-law apartment and much more.

For more information, contact retired Officer Mike Burke 425-774-6841 or cell 206-300-8755

Health Savings Accounts

An Alternative to High Cost Health Insurance

By Ken Crow, SPD Retired

Several times recently, I've talked with Department members who have said essentially the same thing: "I'm holding off on retirement for a while because of the high cost of health insurance." Having retired a few years ago, I struggled with this, too. Finally, I found an alternative to high-cost health-care insurance that seems not very well known, that might change some retirement plans.

Since I was LEOFF 1, the retirement system takes care of my medical bills, but not those of my dependants. When I retired, I opted to continue with the same coverage the City provided for my family. The cost was a rather staggering amount, but it seemed the only option. Please don't tune this out because of "LEOFF 1", because this is, perhaps, even more relevant to LEOFF 2 personnel.

After a couple of years of paying out over $700 per month for coverage rarely used, I started to look for less costly, but still adequate, alternatives. Someone told me about Health Savings Accounts (HSAs), and after some research, I made the switch.

A Health Savings Account is a savings account that, when coupled with the required High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP), provides some great tax benefits, and excellent health care coverage. It appears that the government's motivation for providing the tax benefits that have created the HSAs and HDHPs is to encourage more responsible use of health care, and to reduce the burden on the system.

I do not purport to be any sort of expert on this subject, so don't rely on what is written here to be completely accurate. The information contained herein is my best interpretation of what I think I know (huh?). Other than thinking HSAs are fantastic, I have no vested interest, or ulterior motives for espousing them.

Most health insurance companies have HDHPs as one of the types of coverage offered. The deductible minimums to qualify as an HDHP are set in the IRS tax code. For 2007, the deductible minimum is $1,100 for individuals, $2,200 for families, with out-of-pocket (includes premiums, deductibles and co-pays) not to exceed $5,500 for individuals, and $11,000 families.

And, although the deductibles are rather high, a number of "wellness care" things are fully paid, with no co-pay or deductible. These include annual physicals, mammograms, immunizations, and others. Again, it appears to me that the intent is to try to keep people well, and out of the doctor's office.

Off-sets to the high deductible are very low monthly premiums, and the ability to establish an HSA. HSAs can either be securities, or savings account based. For some reason, only a limited number of institutions offer HSAs. The beauty is that the money put into your HSA is tax deductible, and the interest, or appreciation of assets, is tax exempt. The money taken out to pay for health-care-related expenses is also not taxed.

The annual maximum that can be put into the HSA is set by IRS rule, and is roughly equal to the amount of the deductible, but there is no ceiling on what can be accumulated over the years. For 2007, the maximum deposit allowed for individuals is $2,850, and $5,650 for families. Depositing more than allowed causes a tax penalty. Interest rates and service charges are all over the map on the savings accounts, but most of them pay nearly short-term CD rates, and some charge no fees at all. I didn't look particularly closely at securities-based accounts, but most appear to be mutual funds, with typical management fees and risks.

The money from the HSA can only be used to pay for certain medical, dental, and drug expenses, and are spelled out in the IRS regulations. Use of the money for unauthorized expenditures causes a tax penalty, at least until you reach 65 years of age. After turning 65, the tax penalty goes away, so regular tax rates apply to money withdrawn for non-allowed purposes. Upon death, the HSA simply becomes a part of your estate.

For illustration, I will use my own situation. As I mentioned, I was paying well over $700 a month for insurance for my wife and son. The HDHP I have them under now is $164 per month. The deductible is $3,400, with maximum out of pocket of $8,500. Given that I was paying premiums more than the maximum out-of-pocket under the HDHP, if the worst, most catastrophic medical situations possible happened to my dependents, it would still cost less with the HDHP than just paying the premium on the former policy.

Fortunately, my wife and son have been their usual well selves, so this year I intend to put the maximum tax-deductible amount into our HSA, as I did last year. The allowable amount is pro-rated the first year, based on how many months you've had the HDHP. My HSA account pays about five percent, with it varying a little on either side, so far.

My wife and son have gotten the fully paid physicals, and have seen doctors maybe three times between them in the year and a half since I made the switch. We have paid about $300 in co-pays and deductibles during this time.

If I had kept the original insurance, at over $700 per month, in these 18 months I would have paid more than $12,600 in premiums. In this same time period, I've paid $2,952 in premiums, and about $300 in medical expenses, for a total of $3,252. We've put nearly $7,000 in our tax-deductible HSA, making about five percent. So, considering the tax saving, we have around $3,000 more spending money, even after the insurance premiums, deductibles, co-pays, and savings deposits, than if we'd stayed with the original insurance.

I just don't see a down side to this, and don't see why anyone wouldn't give this a serious look. Particularly if you're putting off retirement because of the high cost of medical coverage, this could be your answer. I would think younger officers might want to look this over as well, as part of long-term financial planning.

If you'd like to get detailed, factual information about HDHPs and HSAs, take a look at the IRS website (irs.gov). They have some very helpful informational materials, as well as the full code that applies. And, although I'm not advocating any particular brand of HDHP, the Lifewise Insurance site (lifewisewa.com) also has some clear and helpful information.

So there you have it; my take on HSAs. Do with it what you will, and be well!

level III medispa

Has your back pain magically resolved?

Chiropractic care has been medically proven to dramatically reduce low back pain and disc injury without surgery. Time doesn't always heal old wounds, sometimes they get worse!

Are those pills working for you?

You know that pills are not going to remove the cause of your back pain so why waste the time, money and your health. Massage therapy can do more for muscle spasm than any pill can with no side effects. Try it out.

Aetna provider. Free parking. Onsite massage

206 957-9050
925 8th Ave N, Seattle 98019
www.levelIIIMedispa.com
South Lake Union just off Dexter/Aloha
Free Consultation.

Prudential
Northwest Realty Associates, LLC
900 SW 16th St., Ste.300
Renton, WA 98055

Joyce Cambronero
206-271-7591

Specializing in Residential Real Estate Sale in South and East King County.

Multiple Discounts If You Are Buying and Selling.

If you are looking for a Realtor that will represent your best interest, Call me for a consultation.

Wife Of Officer
JoJo Cambronero, So. Precinct

E-Mail JoyceCambronero@pnwrealty.com

Discounted Commissions For Law Enforcement.

A Fallen Brother

By Recruit Jason Brunner, Renton Police Department

On September 11, 2007 the law enforcement community tragically lost a member of its family. Seattle Police Officer Michael E. Kelley was killed in an automobile accident while commuting to work. Officer Kelley was just three weeks out of the academy at the time of his passing.

It is never easy to lose a brother or sister in the family of law enforcement. However Officer Kelley wasn't just a brother of ours, he was a son, a father and a husband. Michael left behind a two year old daughter and a wife who is expecting their second child. Those who have experienced the wave of emotions that come from the loss of a loved one can surely relate to the Kelley family during this saddening time. I am sure that those who read this and reflect upon their lost loved ones, your hearts will go out to the Kelley family.

The holiday season is a time when families come together to laugh, joke, enjoy each other's company, and continue to create heartfelt memories of one another. Unfortunately that won't be the case for Officer Kelley's family. To help during this woeful time, the Basic Law Enforcement Academy class 620 alongside the Seattle Police Officer's Guild is asking for your assistance.

During the holiday season and this time of thanksgiving, we want to ask you all to keep the Kelley family close to your hearts and in your prayers as they deal with their loss. BLEA Class 620 is working with SPOG to help raise money for Officer Kelley's family as they prepare for the holidays without their loved one. If you feel in your heart to assist by donating money, you can do so by sending a check payable to SPOG (Seattle Police Officer's Guild) at 2949 4th Avenue South, Seattle WA 98134. Please reference BLEA Class 620 or Officer Kelley Memorial Fund when doing so. More importantly you can help simply by praying for the Kelley family.
God Bless.

Legislation Update: HB 2362

Felons in Possession of Body Armor

By Officers Dan Conine and Steve Kaffer, South Precinct

In the fall of 2006 we took the opportunity to meet with several members of the Washington State Legislature to propose a new law that would make possession of body armor by convicted felons a State offense. The positive result was the creation of "House Bill 2362 – Prohibiting the possession of body armor by felons." This bill would create a two-prong law.

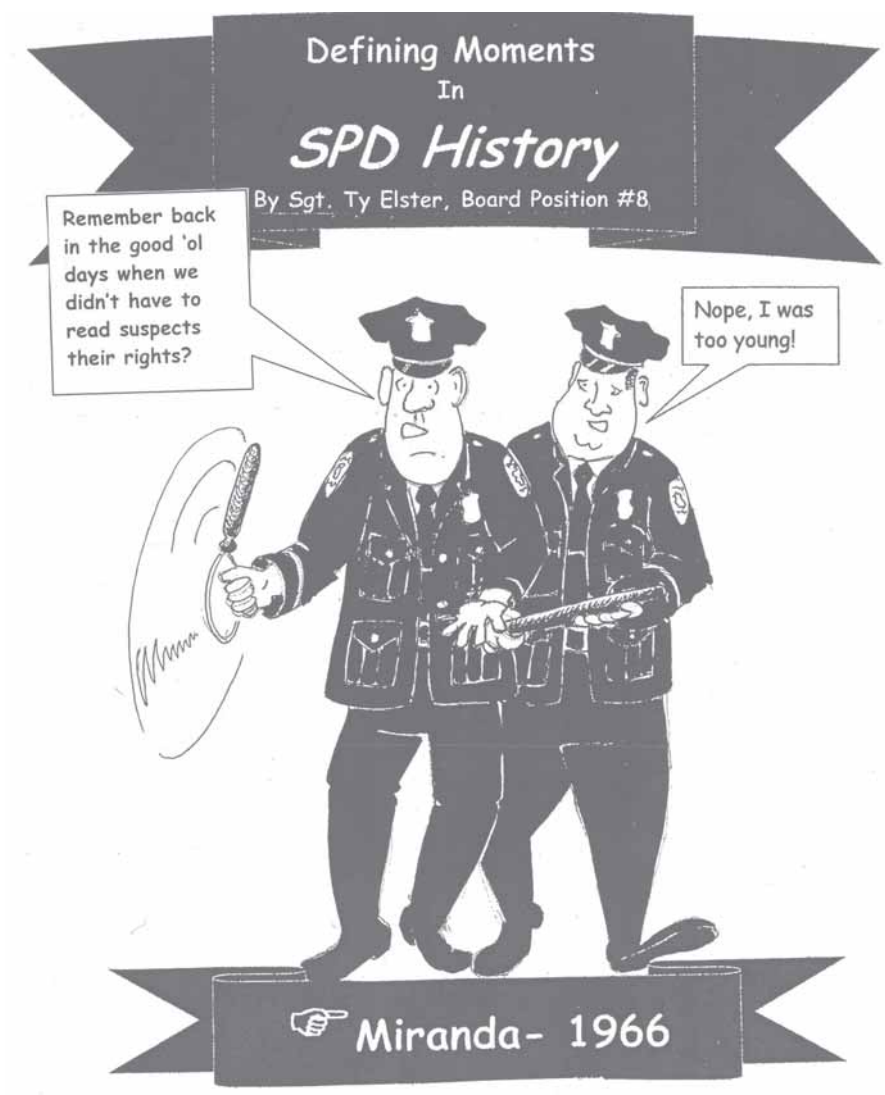
The first prong declares that a person commits the crime of felon in possession of body armor if the person: (A) Has been convicted of a felony involving violence under the law of any state or the United States; and (B) Knowingly is in possession or control of body armor. This violation is a class C felony.

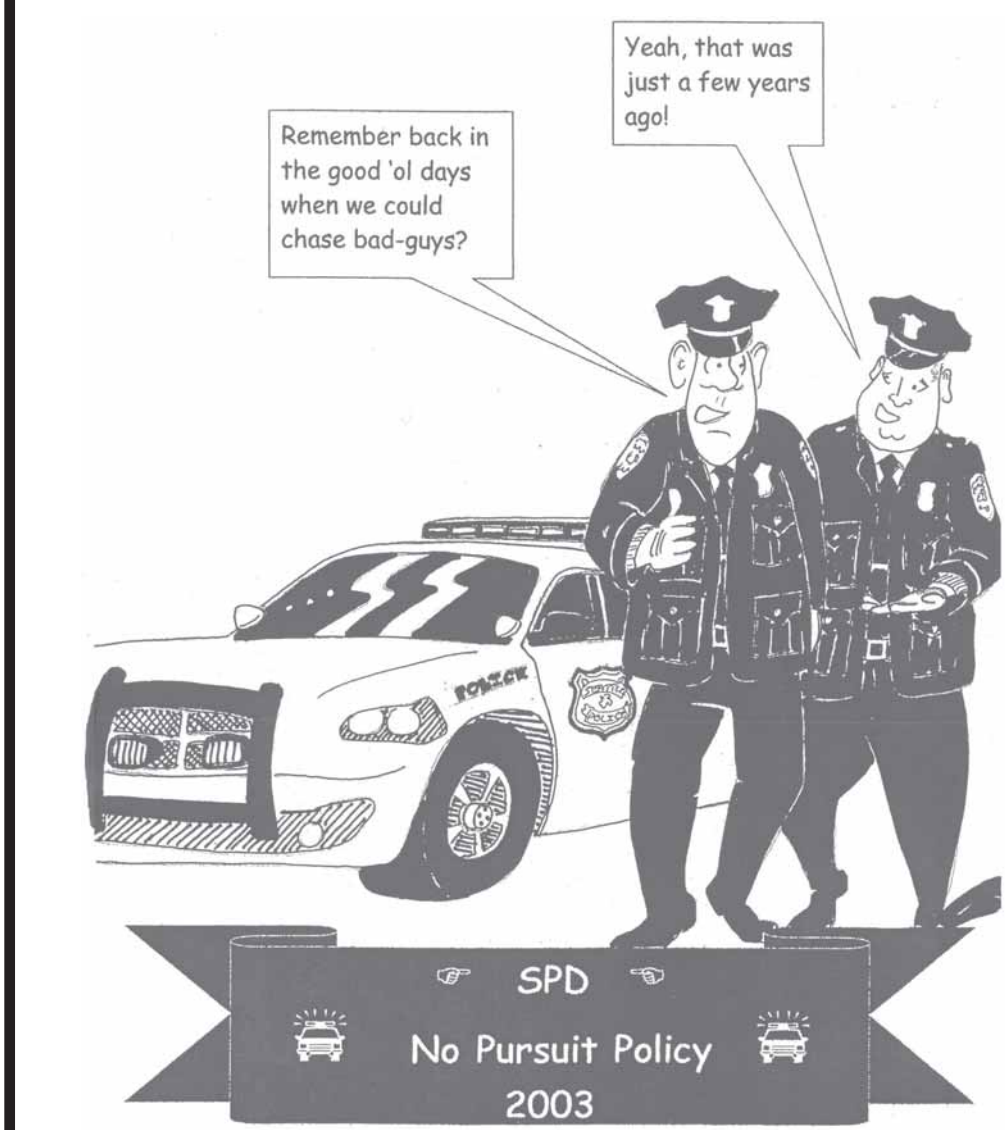
The second prong declares that a person commits the crime of unlawful possession of body armor if the person, (A) while committing or attempting to commit a felony or misdemeanor involving violence, knowingly: (B) Wears body armor; and (C) Possesses a deadly weapon. This violation is a class B felony.

This bill was sponsored by Representatives Dan Roach (R), Al O'Brien (D), Chris Strow (R) and Mark Ericks (D). Unfortunately this bill failed to receive a hearing in 2007 due to a lack of awareness by other members of the Legislature. The bill is again up for a hearing in first months of 2008 and it is our hope that the bill will be heard at that time. We have personally contacted several other members of the Washington State Legislature, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, several community groups and other political action groups. We have received nothing but an overwhelming positive response to the bill, however more still needs to be done to see the bill enacted. It is our request that each of you take a few moments to contact your local Legislator and make them aware of the bill and request their support. You can find their contact information and view the full details of HB 2362 at leg.wa.gov. We believe that the creation of this law would benefit the safety of officers and citizens alike, and provide one more tool to impact the crime in Seattle.

The SPOG Board and Staff wish you and your family a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year





7th Annual
SPD Foster Child Holiday Program

Once again the Seattle Police Department is pleased to participate in the DSHS Division of Children and Family Services gift-giving program this holiday season, by sponsoring children in foster care in the City of Seattle. Many of these children have never had a Christmas before.

This year we will accept "Wish Lists" from 325 children associated with DSHS program.

This is how SPD employees can help:
Beginning Nov 19th the "Wish List" displays will be set up throughout the Department.

- Select a child to sponsor by removing the "Wish List" for the child you choose
- Fill out the sign up sheet at the display
- Purchase gifts
- Wrap the gifts (following instructions on the "Wish List")
- Return all gifts to the display area by **December 13th.**

If you do not wish to sponsor a specific child, we are also happy to accept unwrapped gifts – or gift cards.

~~ NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW ~~

For the past several years, officers asked if you could also deliver gifts to the children:

I am excited to announce that this year DSHS and Chief Kerlikowske have approved having "volunteer" officers deliver the gifts we collect to the foster homes!

More information about this will be coming out in November around the time the displays are set up. Watch the NOTICES for details. I have asked Officer Eric Michl to coordinate the Volunteer SPD employees. Sworn and civilian employees can both help!

Each year I am touched by the generosity and giving spirits of SPD employees, you have brought many, many, smiles to some unfortunate little ones! Let's do it again this year!

These kids need our support! Please show them we care!

If you have any questions regarding this program, contact:
Coordinator / Linda Spromberg
Communications
206-684-8637 or linda.spromberg@seattle.gov

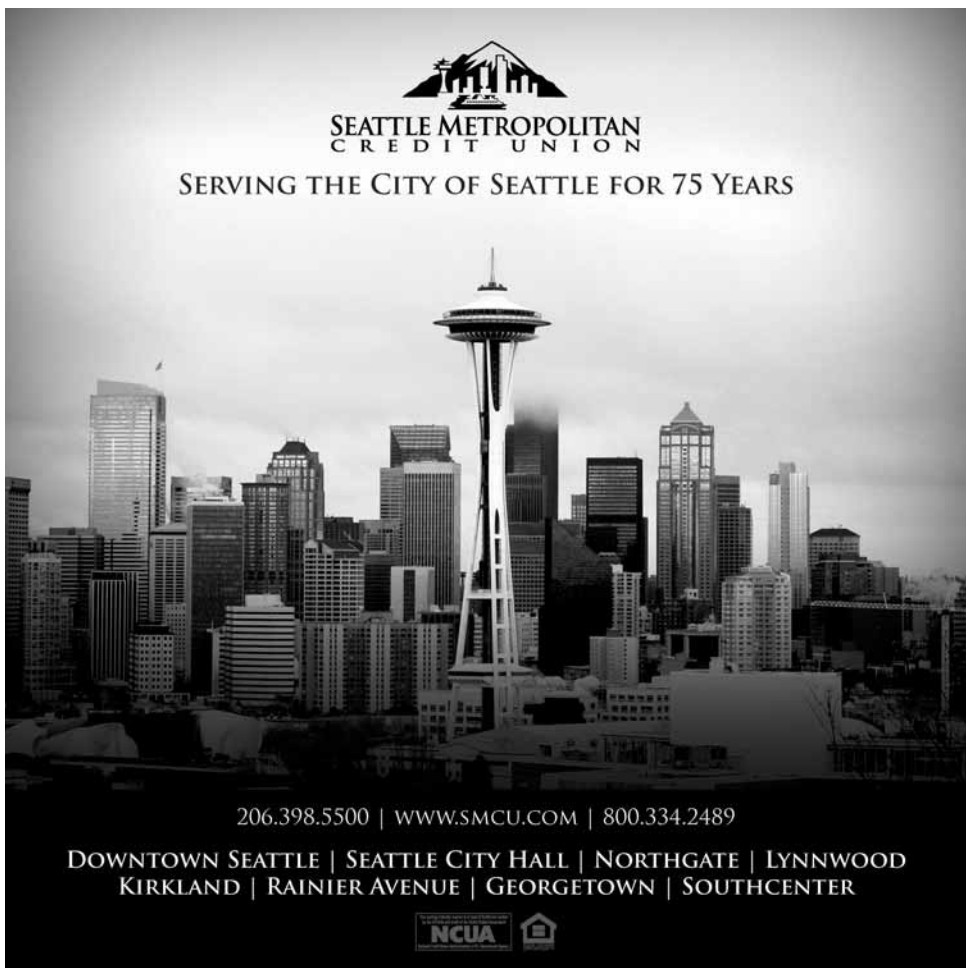
GRAM CHRISTMAS PARTY

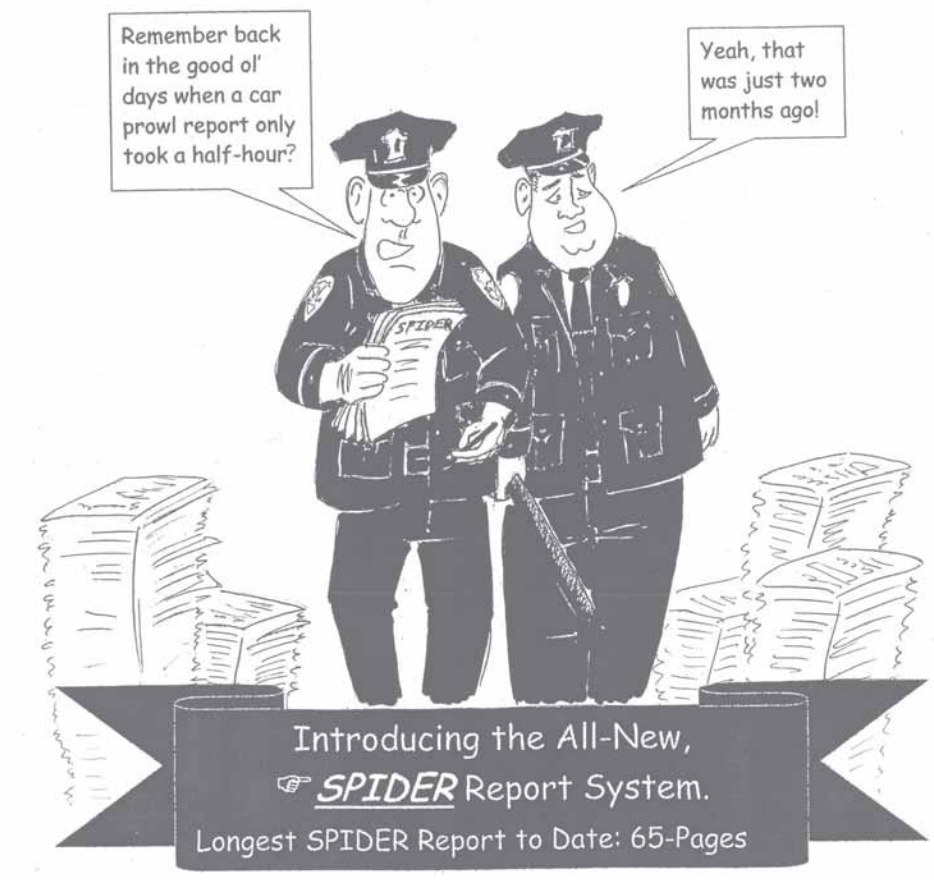
Date: Saturday, December 15th
Time: 1200-1600 hours
Location: SPD Pavilion at Police Range

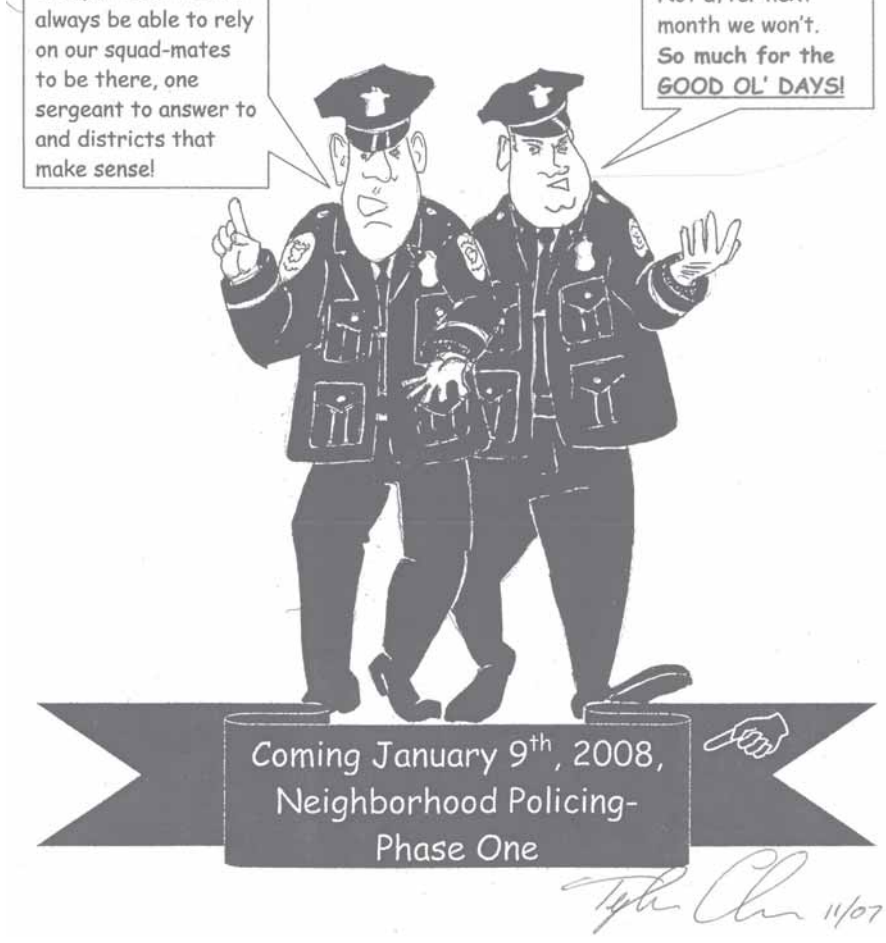
Schedule of Events:
Arts and Crafts; a Magician; a Clown; a blow-up Bouncer; two Face Painters; Child I.D. Booth; and the arrival of Santa from the North Pole!

Santa's helpers needed for: Stocking stuffer party on Thursday, December 13th at 1800 hours at the SPD Pavilion; and day of the event in staffing the various booths. Also needed are yummy cookies for the day of event.

For more information about the event, contact Mary Ann Unger or Tami McClincy via department e-mail.







We Are Wasting Our Money!

But there is something we can do about it

By Officer Ben Hughey, Board Position #7

Back at the end of 2004, we as a police union, had just endured another long and protracted contract negotiation, a negotiation that ended up with another less than equitable contract. The SPOG Board of Directors at that time came up with an idea to help us bring leverage to the table in future contract negotiations. The idea was to affiliate with a large national union organization, thus gaining their political muscle to help pressure the City to be more fair and flexible during negotiations. The SPOG Board of Directors looked into the two largest unions, the Teamsters and the AFL-CIO. It was decided to go with the AFL-CIO due to their membership rates being significantly lower than the Teamsters, their promise of financial rebates for membership fees over the first four years, the fact that we could continue to run our own union (where the Teamsters would have wanted control), and that we could continue to endorse any politician we wanted. It was the belief of the board of directors that the affiliation with the AFL-CIO would truly benefit the members of SPOG and benefit future contract negotiations. It was sent out to a vote by the membership and passed. At that point we became a member of the AFL-CIO/CWA (Communications Workers of America, the largest AFL-CIO group in the west) Local #7877. Not only that, but we became the biggest member in the State with our approximate 1200 SPOG members.

So, here we are in 2007 in another protracted contract negotiation with the City. As usual, the City is grossly behind the times in what it considers a fair and equitable contract, thus the SPOG Negotiations Team has been in contract negotiations for a year and half now with no progress and binding arbitration looking as the only way to resolve the issue with the City. So what has our AFL-CIO affiliation done for us, as dues paying members, to get a fair and equitable contract? What in general does the affiliation with AFL-CIO/CWA get us period? Well, let's see….

First, what does our affiliation cost us? The dues are $3 dollars per member, per month. The cost is $3600 dollars per month (approximately 1200 members) and $43,200 dollars per year for the affiliation. Now, as mentioned above as a reason to join, AFL-CIO/CWA did give SPOG a rebate back for membership dues bringing the total yearly dues to approximately $25,000 per year for the past three years. This rebate ends in 2009 and we will be then paying the full $43,200 per year fee.

Next, what did our money get us? At the beginning of contract negotiations the SPOG board of directors requested that the '"expert" financial evaluations team of the AFL-CIO review the City of Seattle's budget so as to get some hard numbers to bargain with when the City spouts its normal line that it has no money for police raises. The AFL-CIO sent back a budget report that was "not useful" for contract negotiations according to SPOG's attorneys. The report listed no information other than what is already public knowledge and could be downloaded straight from the City's budget reports. The report by the AFL-CIO/CWA was completely deficient and thus of no use to us…strike one.

For a long time after that we heard nothing from the AFL-CIO/CWA, no checks on how negotiations were going, nothing. Eventually a few months ago, the director of the National Coalition of Public Safety Officers (NCPSO), John Burpo, came out to speak with the SPOG board of directors. John's position within AFL-CIO/CWA is to be in charge of groups of police unions that are affiliated so as to bring their concerns to the larger AFL-CIO/CWA membership. Being that SPOG is the ONLY police union in the whole state to be affiliated with AFL-CIO/CWA, we had hopes that John could help us bring our plight to the greater membership of the AFL-CIO/CWA. The board of directors voiced their concerns to John and he replied that he wanted to help us. His idea was to give us money for political action against the City so that we could try to force our issues. Not to bore you with the details, but in its totality what John proposed was actually quite encouraging as long as there was follow through.

Now the aftermath. There was NO FOLLOW THROUGH. The SPOG board of directors agreed to spend $6,000 dollars on metro bus billboards in order to bring our message to the public. When contacted for financial assistance as John had offered, the AFL-CIO/CWA initially said that they would be willing to match our funds, thus doubling the number of busses we could have had signs on. However, when we asked them for the money, they told us that they were refusing to assist us since the tone of the meeting with John Burpo indicated that we were leaning towards disaffiliation…strike two.

To flex our own political muscles, SPOG donated money from our membership voluntary PAC fund and endorsed Tim Burgess for the City of Seattle Council. Tim's opponent was the incumbent, David Della. Della had been incompetent in his position and proved that he would remain so by his answers to questions posed to him during endorsements request meetings with both SPOG and the Seattle Firefighters union. When neither union endorsed him, he went ahead and threatened both (resulting in a official complaint by both unions to the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, which is still being investigated). This city council race became a huge issue in that we, as SPOG, were trying to unseat an incumbent with money and endorsements to show the full City Council that we are a political force to be reckoned with. SPOG asked AFL-CIO/CWA for assistance with donating more money to the Burgess campaign. Not only did the AFL-CIO deny our request, they kicked us in the 'you know what.' They informed us that without consulting us in a LOCAL election that directly affects us, the largest membership pool in the state, the AFL-CIO/CWA had already endorsed and donated money to our opponent, David Della…strike three.

SPOG knew going into affiliations that the AFL-CIO/CWA is extremely liberal/democratic in its political leanings, and while not meaning any disrespect to our liberal/democratic members, as a whole police officers lean more conservative. For me, this is yet another factor to consider. I do not want to be associated with an organization whose overall political lean I do not agree with, nor do I want my $3 dollars per month going towards any of those political agendas I cannot support. For me this is a strike four where they should have been out at strike three.

So, what has our affiliation with the AFL-CIO/CWA given us? It has given us a financial report for contract negotiations that was useless; it has gone back on its offer to assist us with money to help us in local political matters; and the organization has endorsed our political opponents that meant to bring harm to the members of SPOG. All this for a total of $25,000 dollars per year for the last three years, soon to be increased to $43,200 dollars for the hard work they have put in. GIVE ME A BREAK! We are wasting our money! WE can do something about it!

In the November SPOG general membership meeting a motion was made to disaffiliate from the AFL-CIO/CWA. This motion passed and will now be sent out to the whole of SPOG for a vote. You should all expect to see the ballot in January, along with the ballot for the upcoming SPOG Board of Directors races. Please, vote to disaffiliate. We are wasting our money for an organization that has not assisted us, nor do they want to assist us. If you have any questions about this article, feel free to contact any SPOG board of director.

SPD Recruiting Efforts Pay Dividends

Recent efforts at local pre-schools have potential to fill the gap in the SPD staffing crisis. In an effort to boost our ranks the age minimum for Police Officer may be reduced. The City Council supports the idea, believing that even more accountability can be gained by indoctrinating candidates at an earlier age.

On the Way Out, Part II

By Sergeant Wayne Ferguson, West Precinct

From conversations I've had recently with guys who have been around for awhile, it struck me that they had no idea of the basic differences in Patrol, now, as opposed to the '60's and early to mid '70's…so I thought I would talk a little about the cultural changes within the Department and the City at large, before getting down to talking about specific policies and procedures.

The military draft was in effect in the '60's and '70's, which coincided with the City's hiring of around 500 officers during the same period. Most of those hired had two to four years of military experience since the draft was in effect. The minimum age to hire on SPD was 23. New hires included many Vietnam vets and many of those were decorated. This meant that anybody you worked with had some sort of life experience and discipline. Most of the older officers were also ex-military and a large number were WW2 and Korean Conflict vets, as were, of course, the command staff. The Department also emphasized the fact that we were a paramilitary organization, attested to by stand-up roll calls and regular inspections, and demanded strict adherence to the chain of command. The brass had all come up through Patrol and were looked on, and expected to be leaders, not managers. Most of them had walked a foot beat, early in their careers, and if they asked you to do something, you knew that they realized the ramifications of what they were asking. I don't have the same confidence today.

In the late '60's there were no portable radios. If things went sideways on a call, you and your partner had better be able to handle it until you got the key in the ignition, the radio turned on, and have at least a minute and a half, in order for the radio tubes in the trunk to warm up, before you could call for help. I say you and your partner because there was only one one-man car in the City, and that was what is now called Q1 (Magnolia), every other district car was two-man regardless of the Watch. It was nice to have a built in back up and made, I believe, for a more pro-active as well as a safer Department. There were no cell phones, either. Citizens would actually call in on their home phones and keep radio abreast of the direction of travel of suspects and officers if they were on a foot chase through their neighborhoods. People seemed a lot more involved in policing their own neighborhoods back then as well as interested in assisting the police.

In the '60's, the districts were identified by a 3 number system, such as car 116 or car 134. We logged in as car 116, Third Watch so as to differentiate ourselves from car 116, Second Watch. We checked our cars and shotguns out at the property room window located on the 3rd floor of the Public Safety Building. We booked misdemeanants into the Seattle Jail located on the 6th floor of the Public Safety Building.

Amazingly, we were all considered to be responsible enough to handle a shotgun. I guess we were smarter back then. No…could it be that today's brand of **INSTITUTIONAL COWARDICE** hadn't yet started to corrupt the Department? All I know is that I'm going to be a little more than irate if I ever need a shotgun and one isn't available.

There were no ballistic vests, then. Ray Johnson became the first law enforcement officer in Seattle and, I believe, in the U.S. to be saved by a vest when he was shot point-blank in the chest, with a .45, in a bank robbery while working off-duty in a bank in Rainier Valley in the mid '70's. I'm sure Ray Jay would rather have done without that particular honor and I'm also sure this was one of the reasons that LEOFF 1 had 100% medical as one of it's benefits. I remember thinking, when Bob Lisoski and I were kicking in doors on Queen Anne, looking for a man with a rifle, that I was sure glad we had 100% medical. We did the same thing a week later while looking for a man with a shotgun. Inner and outer perimeters, vests, and about two thirds of today's specialty units didn't exist then. You just handled your own district.

Unlike today, we had 50% of the 1025 (1967) man Department in Patrol in order to put as many boots on the ground as possible. This was to contend with increasing civil unrest, which included the ambushing of police officers, race riots, and arsons which were generally precipitated by the Black Panther Party; but that's a subject for another time. The Detective Division accounted for 13% of the Department. 45 officers were hospitalized from injuries as a result of the civil unrest but SPD never fired a shot all year. Part one crime increased by 67% over 1966 statistics. Calls for service went up to 180,927 from 163,082 in 1965. This was a pivotal year for the City of Seattle. We went from a blue-collar small town to a big city, problem wise, and the culture of Seattle also began to change, for the worse, in my opinion.

One of my favorite sayings is that "The more things change, the more they stay the same". That's because it continues to be proven true time and again. For instance, in researching facts for this article I came across an annual report, I believe from 1967, where Chief Ramon, the chief when I hired on, talks about how the Department had been having huge problems recruiting new officers to fill the void of replacing the group of 100 officers who had hired on in 1941. He brags that the huge pay increase for the officers, the previous year, had solved that problem. This is exactly the same problem we face today, on even a greater scale, and I would suggest the remedy is also the same: a substantial pay increase for officers.

The latest rumor about our contract is that the city wants us to pay an even higher percentage of our medical premiums. This brings me to the one thing that hasn't changed since I hired on: the city has never bargained in good faith. Not once in the 13 or so negotiations I've seen. I remember in the early '70's the city whined and moaned about how broke they were, and they were, but apparently not so broke that they couldn't vote themselves (the City Council) a 33% increase in pay. This was a few days after talking us into settling for almost nothing over three years. They even voted their pay raise with an emergency clause so they wouldn't have to wait an extra pay period before seeing their raise.

In another example of the City not bargaining in good faith, a few contracts ago, the City settled with us before settling with the Fire Department. One of the agreements we had was that if Fire settled for more than us, the City would make up the difference to us. For example, if we got 5% and Fire got 6½%, the City would give us an additional 1½%. In typical fashion, the City gave fire the extra 1½% in the form of a signing bonus in order to get out of increasing our pay. These are just a couple examples of how we've been treated in the past. I'm sure we all remember the foot dragging and drawn out negotiations in the past that were obviously attempts at hanging on to whatever interest the City could make for as long as they could stall us.

The Seattle City Council is now the **THIRD HIGHEST** paid city council in the **UNITED STATES**, while we are the **FIFTH LOWEST** paid police department among the seven comparable west coast cities, despite being the only nationally (CALEA) accredited department. We're not even close to being the highest paid police department in the State with our starting pay being about 13th from the top.The City pulls this type of stuff because they can. They know we can't strike, by law, and use that to the maximum advantage that they can.

The City had it's own retirement plan when I joined the Department in 1968 and it was used to help fund (in large part) the LEOFF system in 1970. Our system was well in the black and the best in the State. With the LEOFF 1 system being solvent to the tune of billions, not millions, of dollars over the actuarial liabilities of the system, it's hard to believe that there have been no improvements in the LEOFF 2 system since it was instituted in 1977. The State, which never funded, but manages the LEOFF 1 system, had raided the system in the past and never replaced funds, nor obeyed court orders to repay, is content to wait until all the members of the system die off in order to get their hands on those dollars. It seems to me that the very success of LEOFF 1, in spite of the State's misbehavior, would serve as an example that that the State could improve LEOFF 2 or even create a LEOFF 3 in order to make law enforcement more attractive and draw more qualified recruits…actually, maybe they could then attract recruits, period.

In a related issue, a few years ago, the city committed to increasing the size of the Department by 80 officers. Today, we are only plus 6 toward getting those 80 officers and I know of 3 young officers who are testing to lateral to another department. Who knows how many others are doing the same thing. A few weeks ago the Mayor said he wanted to hire an additional 145 officers. If we haven't been able to attract 80 qualified applicants in the recent past, how in the name of FDR are we going to get 145? Sorry about the language, but when in Seattle you have to invoke the name of the liberal God when you're extremely frustrated.

But… I digress, back to the business of complaining about stupid policies and how to fix them.

A while back the Department became concerned about the numbers of accidents involving police vehicles. This had more to do with monetary damages to vehicles than personal injury liability. There were an inordinate number of bonehead backing accidents and things of that nature. The magic fix the Department came up with, after much analysis, I'm sure, was to send a lieutenant to every accident scene. Sergeants were already required to investigate every officer-involved accident, so I'm flummoxed as to how exactly, a lieutenant showing up, **after** the fact, is going to affect future accidents. I'm sure I'm not as smart as the brass, but it seemed to me that a more effective way to identify sloppy driving habits, **before** an accident, would be to have the sergeants ride with their troops for half a shift once in a while and actually observe their driving. The only thing I got from this particular stupid policy is that the brass doesn't trust us sergeants to recognize or investigate accidents properly. This example pretty well sums up the prevailing attitudes of our collective brass, more to come next month.

Officer of the Month

By Officer Christopher Hall, West Precinct

The SPOG Officer of the Month for November 2007 is Officer Juan Tovar of the West Precinct, as nominated by Sergeant Andrew Hancock for his work in hunting down and arresting a hit & run suspect that left a 92-year-old pedestrian seriously injured.

In November 2006 Yonis Marin-Espinosa struck a 92-year old female pedestrian who was crossing the street with his SUV, seriously injuring her. He then fled the scene. Espinosa had been hiding from the police ever since, even acquiring, and later producing fake I.D. when he was stopped for DUI. Detective Tom Bacon from TCIS had the case and tracked Espinosa down to his place of employment, a restaurant on the upper level of Pacific Place where he is a manager. In early November 2007, Detective Bacon and Officer Tovar attempted to contact Espinosa at the restaurant, but restaurant staff alerted Espinosa to the officer's presence and Espinosa escaped out the back. On November 14th, Officer Tovar was passing by Pacific Place on his bike while heading towards King Sector when he recognized Espinosa on the street. Officer Tovar stopped Espinosa and questioned him about his identity and his place of employment. Espinosa attempted the "don't speak English" tactic, but fortunately Officer Tovar is fluent in Spanish, his first language. Officer Tovar arrested Espinosa for the hit & run and three outstanding warrants. Detective Bacon responded to interview Espinosa, and with the rapport Officer Tovar had established with Espinosa and his help with translating during the interview, Detective Bacon was able to get a full written confession from Espinosa.

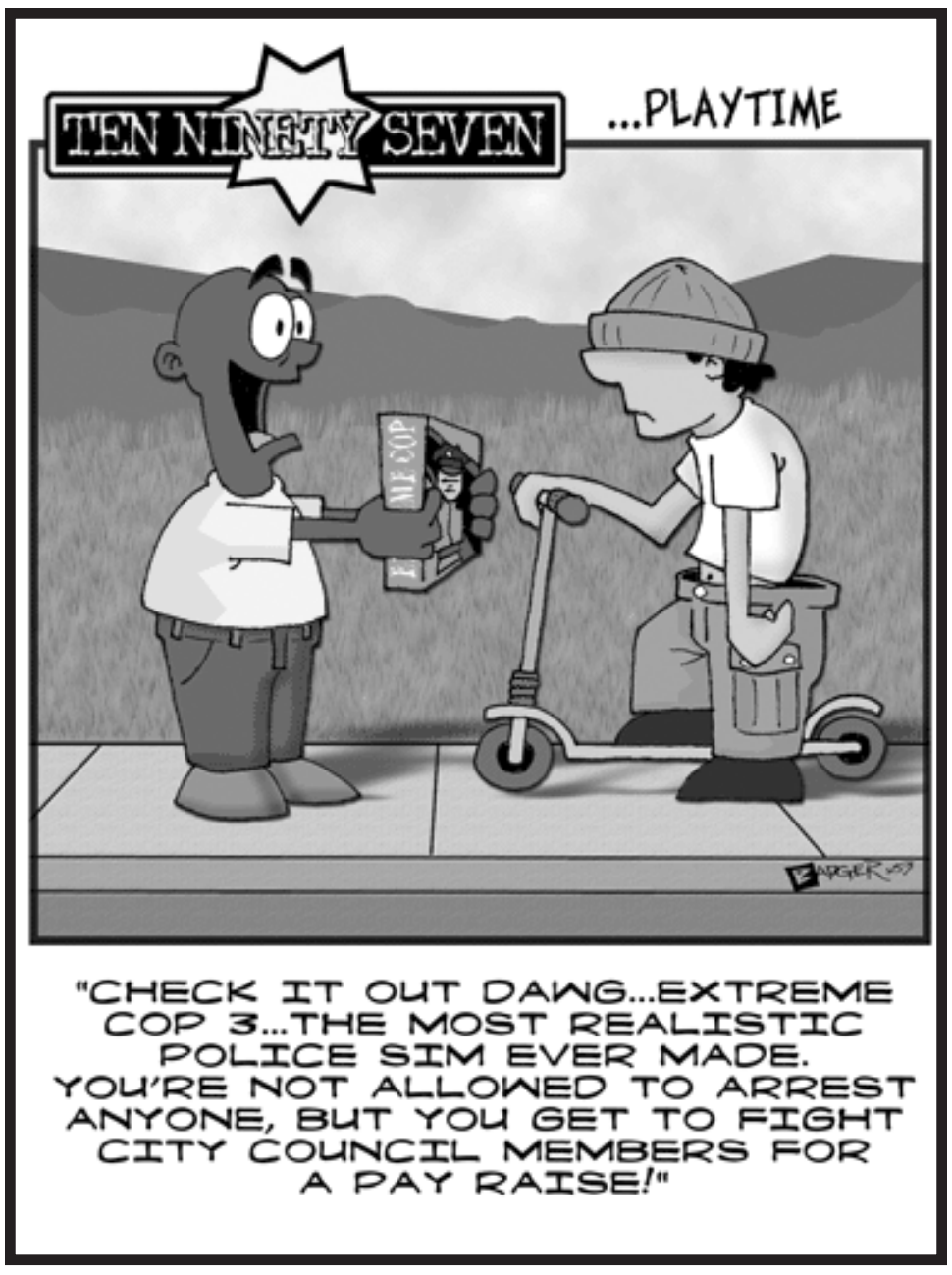
Congratulations to Officer Tovar for an excellent job of recognizing the suspect and obtaining the confession.

Happy Anniversary

The Guardian Staff is pleased to announce the milestones achieved by the following SPOG members during the month of December!

20 years of Service

Sergeant Cindy Granard, Evidence
Officer Dallas Murry, Training

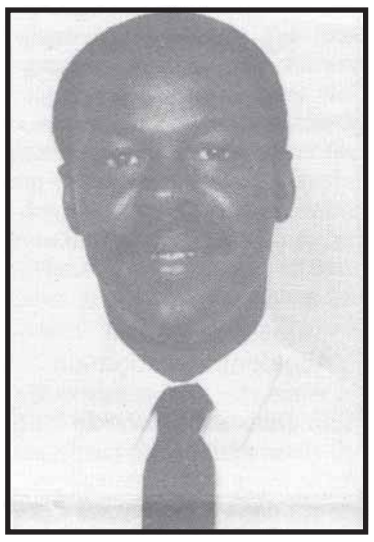


http://www.tenninetyseven.com

History Corner

By *The Guardian* Staff

Reprint from the July 1986 *Guardian*



As mentioned in last month's *Guardian*, Harry Bailey has been sworn in to succeed Paul McCloud on the Board of Directors.

Bailey has 15 years on the Department and is presently assigned to the Accident Investigation Section. He has eight years in Traffic including four on motorcycles. His other assignments include Patrol and Narcotics.

He is looking forward to his term on the Board and will be a valuable asset to the governing body.

A/Chief Harry Bailey recently retired after 39 years of dedicated service to the Seattle Police Department. Chief Bailey served the Seattle Police Officer's Guild from 1986 to 1995 as a board member and as Vice-President. SPOG President Rich O'Neill said that he enjoyed working with Chief Bailey because of his "down to earth" style and because he "always remembered the officer." Chief Bailey will be missed!
Good Luck Chief Bailey and thanks for your years of service!

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain John Oas

As I continue to wake up each day, I am increasingly grateful for the opportunity set before me. I have a chance to try, work and make the effort at being my best once again. It's a new day! I can't change the errors of yesterday. I just wish things were different. Blame someone else when, deep down, I know I need to take some ownership. I truly have things in my life that I wish were different, yet I must press on for the future.

Tomorrow is a possibility, but not a guarantee. I will live at my best, so that tomorrow builds on today; but sometimes tomorrow just goes to 'kaka' all on its own. And, once again I'll have to 'grow-up' and face the consequences.

TODAY is my gift. I will decide to best at my best. Maybe I can make someone smile, and maybe let someone know I care. Maybe let someone be the winner without playing 'one-ups-manship'.

During the Holidays, we are flooded with impulses and emotions. Step back for a second and remind yourself that TODAY is what you truly have to work with. Do your patrol work, do your Detective work, do your specialty work, do your administrative work, do your homework with your whole heart. Yeah, you'll be criticized; but be criticized for trying to be at your best.

I am proud of you and honored to be your Chaplain! PS: Don't forget the Community Chaplains are ready to help as well! May His very best be yours.

All *Guardian* submissions are due by January 15, 2008 to **spogguardian@yahoo.com**

It Ain't Like it Used to be Kid!!

By Pat Kelly #3180 and Jerry Sampont #3193, SPD Retired

"IT AIN'T LIKE IT USED TO BE KID" Those were some of the first words we heard when we came on SPD in 1969. And indeed, it probably wasn't. A lot of the old-timers came on SPD just after WWII and what seemed to be the latest assault on the Police Officers of America in 1969 was the Miranda Decision handed down by the Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren in June 1966. They were convinced that there would never be another confession obtained from the bad guys because of this radical decision. We could however say those same words to the new recruits of the 90's and even more so to the new recruits of today. It gets to be more difficult to be an effective Police Officer every day.

In 1969 the standards for hiring were minimum height 5'10", weight in proportion to height, a maximum age 32, pass a written test, perform a physical agility test and pass a background investigation. There were no women working the street in those days. Only men could be Patrol Officers. Women were hired under completely different standards. They took a different written and physical agility test and were generally assigned to Detective units such as Juvenile. Most of the women had college degrees and prior to 1969 women were hired under even different standards and worked under what was then called the "Women's Bureau". Women were called Police Women and the men were called Police Men. Try that today in this politically correct world.

When we were hired in 1969, we bought our uniforms and leather gear from suggested suppliers in Seattle. The uniforms consisted of a couple of pairs of wool trousers that had a sap pocket for carrying a sap or blackjack (which were not allowed), summer short sleeved and winter long sleeved shirts and clip-on ties. The seasonal change from summer uniform to winter uniform was dictated by a written order from the SPD command. SPD issued us a nightstick, mace, a 4 inch .38 caliber revolver, enough bullets to fill our gun and bullet pouch, a call box key, a shotgun key, a standard issue silver whistle, a hat badge and a shield. As our uniform trousers began to show wear we often stopped at the shoe shine stand on the 3rd floor parking garage in Precinct 1 and touched up the worn spots with black shoe polish to make a presentable appearance for inspection before going on patrol.

Once hired we received 3 days of indoctrination before we hit the streets as Seattle Police Officers. All either of us remember about our indoctrination was that we could shoot someone committing a felony but not a misdemeanor. The only exception being we couldn't shoot a fleeing auto thief due to a negative experience that had happened some time prior to our time. Neither of us really understood the clear distinction between a felony and a misdemeanor but we had our guns, squeaky new leather gear (old timers said about us rookies, "He's so new, his leather squeaks") and we were sent out to fight crime on the streets of Seattle.

In 1969 there wasn't any state training or state police academy. When SPD finally had enough new hires, usually somewhere around 40, they would start an academy class. This could be up to six months after you were hired and were already working the street. Both of us were on less then a month with no formal training and we had already worked one-man cars and walked foot beats with the old-timers.

Each of our academy classes were held at different locations. Kelly's SPD Academy was held in the old Georgetown South Precinct. Prior to Georgetown being annexed into the City of Seattle it had been the Georgetown City Hall. It was built somewhere in the 1890's and it showed. The old Georgetown Precinct was located directly under the flight path of the King County Airport (Boeing Field) and classes were suspended momentarily during each take off or landing of the Boeing's 707's, which were manufactured there. Sampont's SPD Academy was held at Providence Heights near Issaquah. Providence Heights had been a convent and due to the change from an all female facility to an all male facility there were some built in problems, like bathroom plumbing. At any rate, SPD decided to use this beautiful facility for their Police Academy.

There were no portable radios, no cell phones, no computers, no NCIC, no bulletproof vests, no video cameras, no copy machines and no 911 system. We did eventually have a multi-agency computer system called SeaKing that provided the opportunity to search limited outside agencies for warrants, etc. During our time as patrol officers in King Sector we saw the old King Dome built the birth of portable radios, cell phones, copy machines, computers, NCIC, bulletproof vests, the 911 system and much more. The first police officer in the United States to be shot and have his life saved by a bullet proof vest was retired SPD Officer Ray Johnson in the 1970's.

The only radios we had in 1969 were the ones permanently mounted in our cars. That seems a little scary now when you think about it. Without portable radios, when we were on a call or traffic stop we were all alone. Once we were out of the car we had no communications with anyone. Our options were to run back to our prowler car to use the radio, find a telephone to call in or hope something would happen to save us. If we were lucky enough to work a two-man car, one of us could run to the prowler car while the other attempted to maintain some sort of order.

The Radio Room was across the hall from the Records Bureau on the Fourth Floor of Precinct 1, located at 3rd and James and has since been torn down. When an emergency call was received at Communications, it was sent to the dispatcher on an IBM card. This IBM card (punched with holes that apparently meant something to those that kept statistics) rode on a conveyer belt to the dispatcher. As we remember one dispatcher handled the entire city on 3rd watch. There were just 3 precincts then, Downtown, South Precinct in Georgetown and the North Precinct in Wallingford. If any a street officer did something to irritate the radio dispatcher, he would put a red magnet on their name and they would get every lousy call for the remainder of their shift. Sometime in the 1970's we got a brand new radio room on the second floor of Precinct 1.

There were Call Boxes located at strategic intersections where foot beats were assigned and they were required to "Ring in" regularly. The Call Boxes were blue metal boxes about 18" wide by about 36" high and had a phone inside. The Call Box key we were issued was required to open and use it. Call Boxes were not only used for communications with the Precinct but were occasionally used to store booze, food and cigars. Associated with the call boxes was a type of telegraph ticker tape system that received the "ring" that went from the Call Box to the Precinct so when the beat man would ring in it would punch holes in a ticker tape in the Precinct letting the Watch Commander know the beat man had checked in and there were no problems. Failure to "ring in" could generate a roll call of all officers and a search for the officers who did not "ring in" to make sure every one was all right.

When we requested a records and warrants check on a person they were checked in Seattle only unless the Records Bureau was asked to call an outside agency and to have them check their records. Warrant checks with these outside agencies required a phone call to that agency by our Records Bureau and sometimes took as long as a half-hour to determine if the warrant was still active. The SPD records and warrants check was all done manually and required a hand search through 3x5 cards filed in huge rotary bins. If the card had a red stripe across the top which meant the subject had a warrant.

To facilitate a records and warrants check there was a continuous loop line with a pulley at each end much like old clothes lines. This line ran from the Radio Room to the Records Bureau. When Radio would receive a request for a records check they would attach a card with the information requested onto this revolving loop line with a clothespin and manually pull on the line until the card was moved over to the Records Bureau. When the records search was done the card was moved back to Radio where the information was then given to the Officers. Officers picked up a "Hot Sheet" each night at roll call. The Hot Sheet listed in alphanumerical order all reported stolen cars in Seattle. Periodically during your shift new stolen and recovered cars would be added or deleted to the Hot Sheet by radio. All this may seem arcade today but back then it was all state of the art. More on our recollections next month.

Comments to Kelly and Sampont can be sent to: twooldrelics@hotmail.com

Important Date Change!!!!

SPOG Membership Meeting
Wednesday, December 19th
at 2000 hours
Complimentary Dinner All Members Welcome

ATTN: VERIZON WIRELESS CUSTOMERS

Thank you for your cooperation during the SPOG cell phone program migration process with Verizon Wireless. We are in the final phase of closing out the program. At this time, you should have received notification from SPOG of whether you hold a cell phone deposit. According to our records, everyone eligible has been refunded their deposit at this time. If you have not been contacted about a deposit and believe you may be eligible, please contact the SPOG Office at (206) 767-1150. The cell phone program will officially expire on 12/31/07 and deposits will no longer be available after this expiration date. Thank you for your cooperation.

Retired News

By Mike Germann

New Retirements

LEOFF I:
Harry C. Bailey, #2930, Assistant Chief of Police, has retired for service at the close of business on November 9, 2007. I thought his message to the men and women of the Seattle Police Department was much more eloquent than anything I could possibly write.

It is with great difficulty that I write this letter. After 37 years at the Seattle Police Department, it is time to submit my resignation for retirement. Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to work with many great men and women in this organization, as well as the community it serves. I can say without hesitation that the City of Seattle is very fortunate to have a Police Department such as ours. To each of you that think the grass may be greener on the other side of the fence, let an old man tell you something. I have had the opportunity to visit many agencies across the country and listened to other Chiefs talk about issues that they have in their respective departments. This has solidified what I have known for some time - this is truly the best department in the country! It is not like I am leaving the City. I am sure from time to time our paths will cross. My last day with the department is November 9, 2007. With that I would like to thank each and every man and woman, both civilian and sworn, for making my career a success. I will always treasure my time as a Seattle Police Officer. Hope I see you when I'm out fishing.
Assistant Chief Harry Bailey

Harry's the new Security Director for the Seattle Sonics organization.

LEOFF II:
Vaniece E. Armstrong, #5080, Seattle Police Officer – Patrol, retired for service effective close of business October 18, 2007. She was last assigned to the South Precinct, 2nd Watch. She had over 20 years of sworn service and other officers speak highly of her. She's had a variety of staff and operations assignments.

Congratulations to both of the new retirees.

MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT

Inoculations/Vaccinations

Flu season is fast approaching. Consider, with your physician's advice, the following:

- o flu shot
- o pneumonia shot
- o "shingles" shot

More than anything else, frequent hand washing with soap and water will go a long way toward protecting you from illnesses.

Go ahead and pay for these medical services, if not covered by Medicare or some other plan, and send your reimbursement request to the Police Pension Office. Call John Sullivan/Tom Grabicki at (206) 386-1287 if you have any questions.

"Bud" Solis' Article on Shooting Championships
Retired Seattle Police Officer "Bud" Solis contributed the following article on his trip to the Ottawa Full Bore Rifle Championships. "Bud" is one of the finest shooters that the Seattle Police Department has ever produced. He works hard at perfection.

Just thought I'd send you a short note on my trip to Ottawa, Canada to compete in the 125th Canadian Fullbore Rifle Championships, in conjunction with the World Long Range Rifle Championships. In August of this year I traveled to Canada as a member of the 2007 United States Veterans Rifle Team. A veteran means being over the age of 60, and not as a former member of any armed service for your particular country. The team consisted of 10 firing members, 9 alternates, 3 coaches, a Vice Captain, Adjutant and a Team Captain. We shot the competitions from 300 to 900 meters. Fullbore shooting means you have to use a .308 caliber rifle which must weigh not more than 14.3 lbs., have a trigger pull weight of at least 3.3 lbs, and use only iron sights, no scopes allowed. There were about 9-10 countries represented, and all of the provinces of Canada. About 575 shooters were in attendance to contest these events on the ranges at Connaught, Ontario. After 8 days of competitions, we shot in 17 individual matches, from the short 7 shot events at 300 meters, to the longer 15 shot matches at the 800 and 900 meters. I was in the veterans category, and was fortunate enough to place 3rd overall. During four team events, I was selected to shoot in each, due to my placing in the individual matches. The final team event, the 2007 World Veterans Team Championship was contested at 300, 600, 800, and 900 Meters. I was able to fire the highest score on the team, and after all the scores were tabulated, (a number of times, I might add), our team won the Silver Medal. Seems like all the hard work paid off. Had a great time, met people from all over the world, brought home some great memories and look forward to the next competition.

Medicare Reimbursement Requests Due
Please clip, fill out, sign and return your 2007 Medicare/Medicare Supplement reimbursement request NOW. We're only going to print the form twice this year.
Call John Sullivan/Tom Grabicki @ (206) 386-1287 if you have questions.

NOTICE
LEOFF I AND ESCALATOR RETIRED SEATTLE POLICE PENSION FUND
MEMBERS ONLY
2007 MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

This form is only for LEOFF I or ESCALATOR retired Seattle Police Pension Fund members (not beneficiaries) on MEDICARE, and is a reimbursement request for premiums you paid in conjunction with Medicare and, in some cases, for Medicare Supplement (Regence). Reimbursement will only be considered in response to your submitting a claim for your cost in 2007. Those who are covered by a Medicare supplement through Premera Blue Cross, your premiums are paid directly by the Police Pension Office and are not reimbursable.

The $131 annual Medicare deductible is also reimbursable if you paid the deductible yourself. In that case, send a copy of the Medicare report showing the amount of deductible you met for 2007. In most cases the Police Pension Office has already paid the $131 deductible during the course of the year.

(*If you are uncertain about your coverage, please contact John Sullivan at 206-386-1287.*)

Medicare Premium, Part B **$93.50 x _____ = $_____**
(Deducted from your Social Security check or paid quarterly by you.) **# of months**

Premium for Regence Blue Shield **$_____ x _____ = $_____**
(Supplement to Medicare or equivalent) **# of months**

Medicare deductible **$_____**
Maximum of $131, if applicable (See paragraph 2 above)

TOTAL $_____

Name (Please Print) _____

Address_____

City _____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____

SIGNATURE _____

Please return this reimbursement form to:
Seattle Police Pension Office
PO Box 94729
Seattle, WA 98124-4729

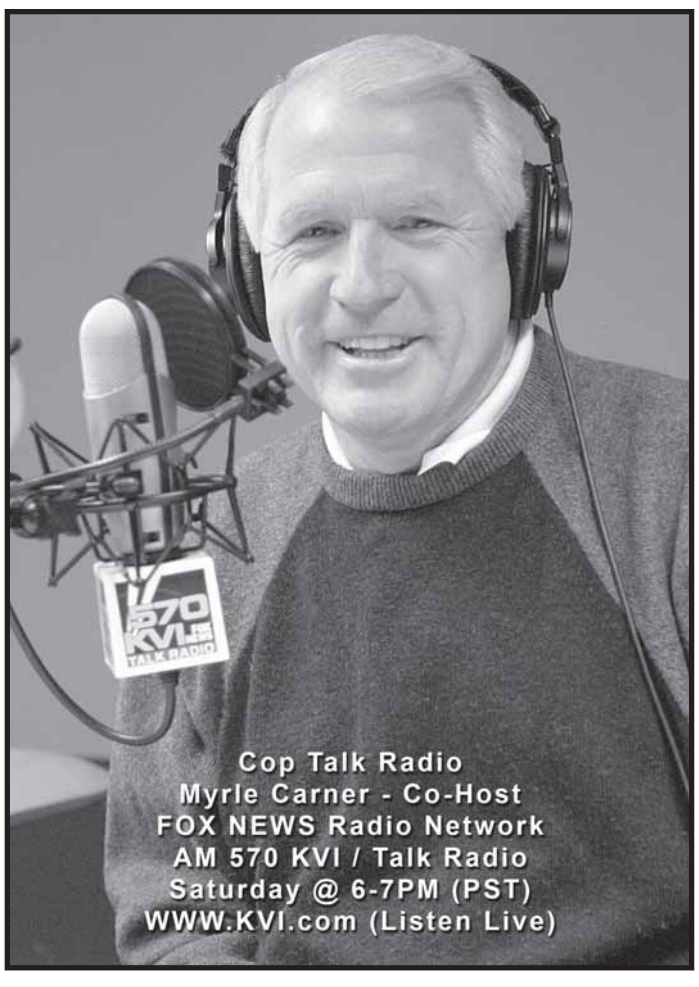
Retired Birthdays

December 2007

(Numbers in parenthesis denote retiree's December birth date)
Michael W. Allen (20), Roger H. Amundson (15), Stephen E. Anderson (23), Ronald L. Aslett (19), Barrie L. Bailey (6), Randall W. Benson (15), Dorothy Birkinshaw (18), John D. Boatman (14), Michael D. Brasfield (28), Ivory Brooks, Jr. (21), John W. Brummett (24), Richard C. Buckland, Jr (10), Nicholas J. Bulpin (29), Adeline L. Campbell (10), Joyce A. Chase (25), Charles R. Connery (29), Ronald D. Copeland (19), Merlyn R. Dickhaut (21), Harriet D. Dionne (2), Michael S. Donnelly (7), N. Jewell Dunston (22), James P. Dyment (24), Allen J. Earlywine (25), Barbara Fletcher (6), Marie Franzen (17), Mark L. Gilbert (19), Evelyn Golder (25), Raymond A. Gonstead (12), Charles M. Gorham (29), Allan R. Gustin (1), Harold H. Haley (17), Vesta Verlaine Hanson-Gottry (2), Charles S. Harris (28), Lloyd J. Hart (1), Sally S. Hofstee (21), Michael Hori (29), Timothy A. Hubbard (1), Philip B. Hurd (12), James M. Jacobson (28), David W. Jessup (28), George Patrick Johnson (6), Richard L. Johnson (3), Arne D. Jorgensen (23), Dennis P. Kelly (27), William L. Kirk (30), Tommy B. Knight (19), Mary J. Kulgren (15), Theodore C. Lappier (20), Charles E. Layman (7), Skip Lindsey (17), Fred E. Lipke (27), Howard F. Lischke (23), Judith A. Lorance (31), Allan R. Lorette (29), Gerard P. Lui (4), William J. Magrilio (7), David B. Malinowski (15), Virginia Manus (22), Edwin C. Marion (8), Robin R. McCurley (16), Ronald C. McNaught (27), Jack E. Meduna (18), Bernie L. Miller (6), Virginia J. Mills (13), James D. Nicholson (3), Allister H. O'Brien (25), Shaun M. O'Kinsella (3), Frank W. Ottersbach (22), Cary G. Parkes (12), Joanne B. Pavlovich-Stanton (26), David A. Peppard (29), Glayd S. Perkins (12), Janet A. Plumb (15), Donald L. Poindexter (8), Russell F. Proctor (17), John L. Quaale (27), Steven B. Quint (20), Victoria A. Roller (30), Donald C. Rothaus (29), Richard W. Rovig (22), Albert L. Schrader (12), Charles B. Seely (15), Lawrence G. Shaffer (31), Tyrone P. Sheffey (21), Richard S. Somonski (5), Shirley E. Strunk (2), Steven M. Thomas (9), Peggy A. Timm (21), Robert W. Trebon (27), Shirley Vance (26), Kathleen Watson (22), Julius L. Werner (13), Elmer H. Wittman (23), Ralph W. Zottman (

SUPPORT THE GUARDIAN!

...by using our advertisers! Let them know you heard about them in The Guardian



For Rent

Arizona getaway at Green Valley. Great place to come in Fall-Winter-Spring. Fully furnished 2 BR-2BA. Nice mountain view. Very reasonable rates per week or monthly available.

Call John Sullivan at (425) 788-1158

Last Ring

Billy J. Baughman, #1865, retired Seattle Police Department Homicide Detective, passed away on October 13, 2007 at the University of Washington Hospital following a long illness. He was 72 years of age upon his death.

Billy Baughman was born on July 26, 1935. He was appointed a Seattle Police "Patrolman" on September 2, 1958 and retired with 25 years and 2 months service October 3, 1983. He served in Patrol, Traffic as a Motorcycle Officer and as a Detective in Criminal Investigations, most notably Homicide. He was a part of Detective Sergeant Jerry Yates' squad and worked well in that part of criminal investigations. Danny Engle is remembered as a long-time partner, along with other notables such as Benny DePalmo and Gary Fowler. Billy was especially close to John Gray. It was from Bill Baughman that John learned the manly arts: hunting, golf and bowling.

A "Celebration of Life" was held on November 9, 2007, at the Nile Temple and Country Club, located just west of I-5 on 205th. Chaplain John Oas officiated and the Honor Guard was present to pay their respects to Billy Baughman and his family.

Billy Baughman is survived by his wife of 48 years, Patti, a son Michael and two daughters, Wendi and Dawn. There are seven grandchildren.

May Billy Baughman be ever remembered for his smile, twinkling blue eyes and his curly hair. He was the best of the best.

Lawrence M. "Pete" Petersen, (retired City of Seattle Electrical Inspector) passed away October 30th in Everett. He was 89 years of age.

"Boompa", as he was affectionately called, was the family patriarch of eight past and present members of the Seattle Police Department which included three daughters, Marty Sullivan (recently retired Records Manager), Alyne Hansen (ID Administrative Support Supervisor) and Darcy Holmes (formerly of Special Activities Unit at the Seattle Center); two granddaughters, Lisa McCool (Burglary/Theft North Admin. Spec. 1) and Tawnya Lord (recently of Mounted Patrol/Labor); and niece Doreen Zuger (formerly of Communications/ Dispatcher), and grandniece Dawn Zuger (ID/Admin. Spec. 1). Also a son-in-law, John P. Sullivan (Marty's husband) a retired police officer now employed at the Seattle Police Pension office.

"Pete" is survived by four children, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. A memorial service will be held for immediate family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to your local American Legion Hall.

and condolences to

Marjorie A. Pakka, age 87, passed away on October 15, 2007 in Seattle. She was the surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police "Patrolman" Vernon D. Pakka.

Frances C. Smith, age 80, passed away on October 28, 2007, in Seattle. She was the surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Lieutenant Thomas R. "Tommy" Smith.

May they all rest in peace.

Bacon Bowl President
Office:.....206-935-7700
Res:.....206-937-8873
FAX:.....206-935-7000
Pager:.....206-997-4200
E-mail.....harrietb@johnlscott.com
5242 California Avenue S.W.
Seattle, WA 98136
THIS OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED
John L. Scott
REAL ESTATE

Harriet Benjamin
Sales Associate

Member of the Police Family since 1939

Editor's Notes

By Detective Ron Smith,Pawn Shop

As we approach the 2008 SPOG election cycle, I announce my candidacy for the position of SPOG Secretary/Treasurer in the upcoming election. Since you elected me to the Board of Directors, I have stepped up to represent many of you during OPA interviews, with many of you having asked for me by name. I have served on the Political Action Committee (PAC), and helped to interview candidates seeking SPOG's endorsement in the recent election cycle. What a thrill to be part of ousting an inefficient City Council incumbent by actively backing a pro-police candidate in Tim Burgess! As a Board member I have heard many of your concerns about the lagging state of contract negotiations, and how the City doesn't give one rip about our status as the largest labor union in the city. I am a strong supporter of the SPOG's PAC, and have come to realize that the only way we as a Guild are going to get heard is to jump in the political ring. As you have seen, WE can make a difference in getting the right people elected to positions that will help SPOG's position. For seven years I have been the editor of your monthly union publication, *The Guardian*, and have made a concerted effort to have your voices heard. I have been an outspoken advocate for the rights and support of the rank and file. I am willing to yield my personal political views in order to effectively work with the Seattle political climate to further SPOG's agenda. While I am currently a detective, I never have, nor shall I ever forget that I came from patrol, and what it means to be a patrol officer. Patrol is the backbone of the department, without patrol there would be no reason for anything else. With that said, I also have a keen insight into the issues of detectives and other non-patrol personnel, and by electing me to this Executive Board position, I would bring that insight to the table, where as now everyone is in patrol. As your Secretary/Treasurer I pledge to faithfully carry out the duties of the office, roll up my sleeves and get to work on the Executive Board. I will make a concerted effort to attend all Joint Labor/Management meetings, contract negotiation sessions, meet frequently with the contracted accountant and consult with the investment firm to seek options to better invest SPOG's resources for the future. I am highly motivated to get a seat at the table where the important business is conducted, and fight for you, the rank and file. So when you get those ballots in the mail early next year, I would appreciate your vote for the position of Secretary/Treasurer.

I wish each of you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Feel free to contact me with your comments or concerns at spogguardian@yahoo.com. "And she will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."-Matthew 1:21

SPOG's Message is on the Move

SPOG President Rich O'Neill and Vice President Roger Dixon are seen with one of the 12 Metro buses displaying the SPOG ad.

During the month of November, 12 buses have circulated the downtown corridor informing the citizens of Seattle that our officers are still working without a contract.

Calendar of Events

SPAA Christmas Lunch at Chinooks Restaurant
Wednesday, December 5th at 1100 hours

Seattle Police Relief Association board meeting at the SPRAG Office
Wednesday, December 12th at 1300 hours

GRAM Christmas Party at the SPD Pavilion
Saturday, December 15th from 1200 to 1600 hours

SPOG Elections Close
Wednesday, December 19th at 1600 hour

Seattle Police Officers' Guild general membership meeting at the SPOG Office
Wednesday, December 19th at 2000 hours

Christmas (SPOG Office Closed Monday and Tuesday)
Tuesday, December 25th

New Years Day (SPOG Office Closed)
Tuesday, January 1st

A BETTER ROOFING COMPANY
Owned & Operated by Kurt & Scott MacMillan
(Sons of SPD Don & Terri MacMillan)
COMPOSITION SPECIALISTS
Plenty of local and Seattle Police Officer References
Roofing the King, Pierce & Snohomish County areas since 1991
FREE ESTIMATES (206) 935-1575
www.ABetterRoofing.com
Licensed • Bonded Insured
St. Ctr. Lic. No. BETTERC052DT
MASTERCARD/VISA

Bellevue Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic
Clinical Audiologists
Stacey Beaudoin, Au.D.
Corina Carlson, Au.D.
Jennifer DeCastro, Au.D.
Hearing Aids
Full Audiometric Testing
Custom Hearing Protection Devices
(425) 454-3938 ext. 6
Overlake Medical Tower ~ 1135 116th Ave NE, Suite 500
Bellevue, WA 98004
LEOFF I are encouraged to call for great benefits package information

Save $10 Off Knives
Think sharp and treat yourself to any 5.11 Tactical Tarani Series Knife and save $10. Now through December 31, 2007.
5.11 TACTICAL SERIES
One coupon per item. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase and must be surrendered. No cash/credit back. Not valid on prior purchases. Coupon expires 12/31/07.
Seattle 8610 Aurora Ave N 800-537-5277 M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm Sa 9:00am - 1:00pm
Des Moines 21621 Pacific Hwy S 800-495-6265 M-Th 10:00am - 6:00pm Fr 10:00am - 5:30pm
BLUMENTHAL UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT
Serving those who serve since 1948
www.blumenthaluniforms.com